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READERS' HARVEST REPORT (p. 25)



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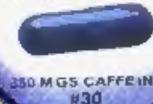
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- 1 — 300 mm West Condenser $\frac{2}{40}$ Ground Joints
- 1 — 300 mm Liebig Condenser $\frac{2}{40}$ Ground Joints
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DAVID ALLEN

● At the start of a new year, it's time to pause and give thanks to the unlikeliest of people: Ronald Reagan. Yes, the Reagan government's idiotic "War on Drugs" has done more for HIGH TIMES in the last year than we could have hoped for. Our readership is growing, because the American public simply does not believe the stupidities put out by their own officials (the latest howler: White House Drug Czar Carlton Turner's claim that marijuana causes homosexuality!). More and more Americans, those who believe that democracy means getting the real facts to make informed choices, are turning to HIGH TIMES for truthful information about recreational drugs because they trust us. That's a heavy responsibility, but the increased circulation, hundreds of readers' letters, and the many responses to a recent readers' poll tell us that you think we're doing a good job. ● Every American is entitled to a chicken and a little pot and while the "War on Drugs" continues its misguided efforts to control the habits of 30 million (their figure) Americans by law enforcement and pious preaching, the public is voting with its dollars and attention for more and better HIGH TIMES: Thank you, President Reagan, Attorney General Ed Meese, and all the pig-headed policy makers who are making pot-loving Americans aware of their rights. ●

From on high,

John Howell
John Howell

EDITOR'S

LETTERS

PUNCH FOR PATCH

First let me commend HIGH TIMES for feeling good enough about itself to print a letter as cruel as the one from Sheila Shuey of P.A.T.C.H. ["Letters," Oct. '86]. I find it hard to believe someone with such a limited knowledge of HIGH TIMES could write such a letter. Had Sheila done a little research, she would have discovered a lot of your articles make people think twice about drug use. I just hope the narrow-minded people of this country don't ever reach a majority.

—Eric F.
Tucson, Arizona

ANOTHER PUNCH

I'd like to respond to the letter in the October issue from Sheila Shuey. I find HIGH TIMES to be very informative, educational, and humorous! HIGH

TIMES tells me everything I need to know to grow beautiful plants, as well as straight facts on certain plants that may be dangerous to my health. HIGH TIMES is a very respectable magazine. If young kids are hooked on drugs, HIGH TIMES won't make a difference one way or another. If you want to blame someone, blame the kid's parents. They let it happen!!

—Pissed Off
South Suburban, Illinois

IT'S A TREND

I love HIGH TIMES. Some people don't know education when they see it. Please print my response to Sheila Shuey. Dear Sheila: We are all very grateful you are a member of P.A.T.C.H. If you read the small print on page 6 of HIGH TIMES, you will see it clearly states that HIGH TIMES does not encourage the illegal

use of any products advertised, nor the use of any drugs or alcohol. If people young or old decide to use drugs or alcohol, that's entirely up to them. I am a concerned parent myself and if my children want to try drugs, that's up to them. And if they want to read HIGH TIMES, that's up to them too. We figure if we tell them "no," they'll do it anyway. HIGH TIMES is not trash, it's educational! It doesn't tell you just how to grow marijuana, you learn how to grow house plants too. So, if you don't like HIGH TIMES, then don't buy it and don't read it. Let other people make up their own minds. Where I live, HIGH TIMES is kept behind the counter and you have to show an ID to buy it.

—Kathy Slade
Hammond, Indiana

Although that poor woman in Texas obviously never read HIGH TIMES, at least she had the guts to say what she thought of the magazine. There are millions like her who are convinced we're some sort of pharmacological child molesters, but who don't have the guts to vent their ignorant fantasy-spleen in print. Give Sheila some credit. At least she's got balls.

POTHEADS AT UCLA

Long live HIGH TIMES! I read your response to Stephen Newman's letter [Sept. '86] and cheered along with every line. It is the ignorant, self-righteous idiots like Newman who have created marijuana's evil image. When I started

continued on page 14

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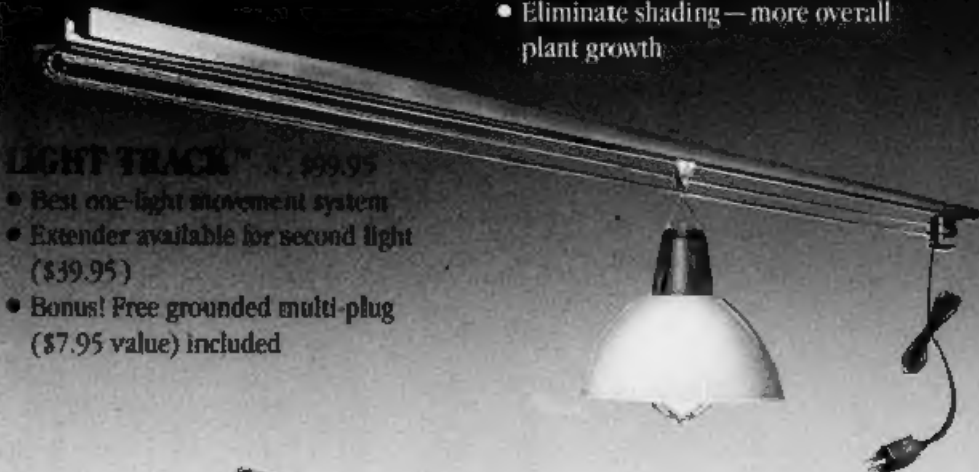
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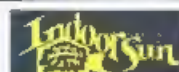
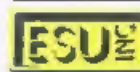
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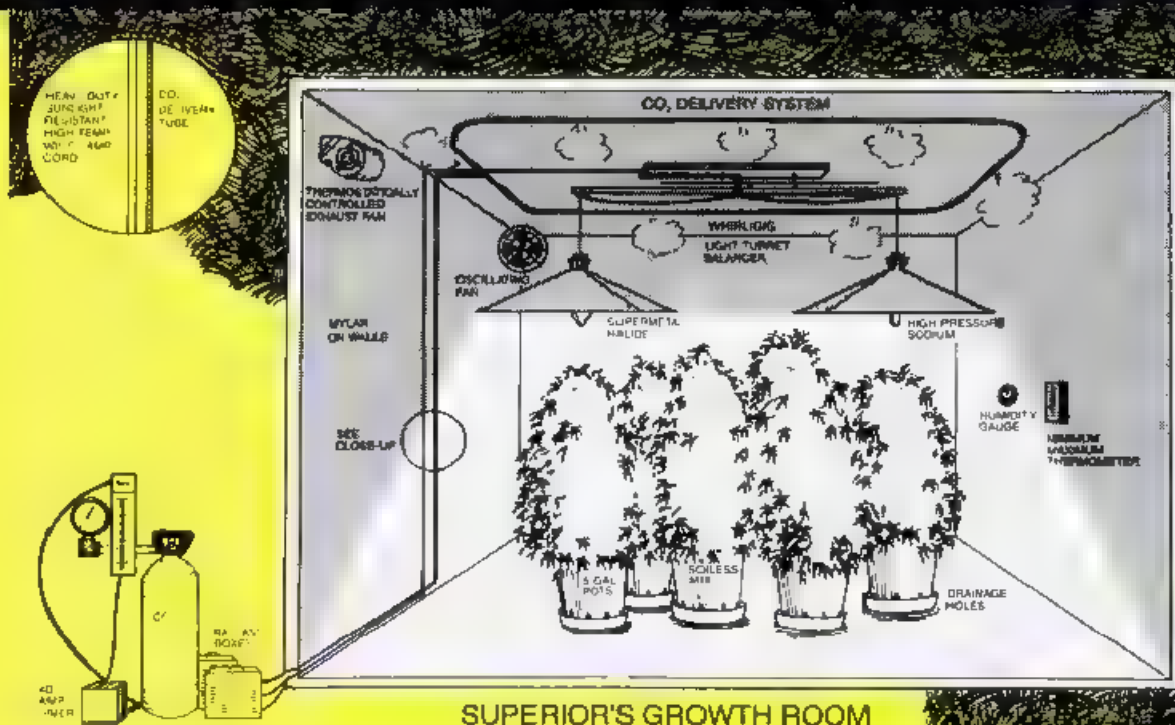
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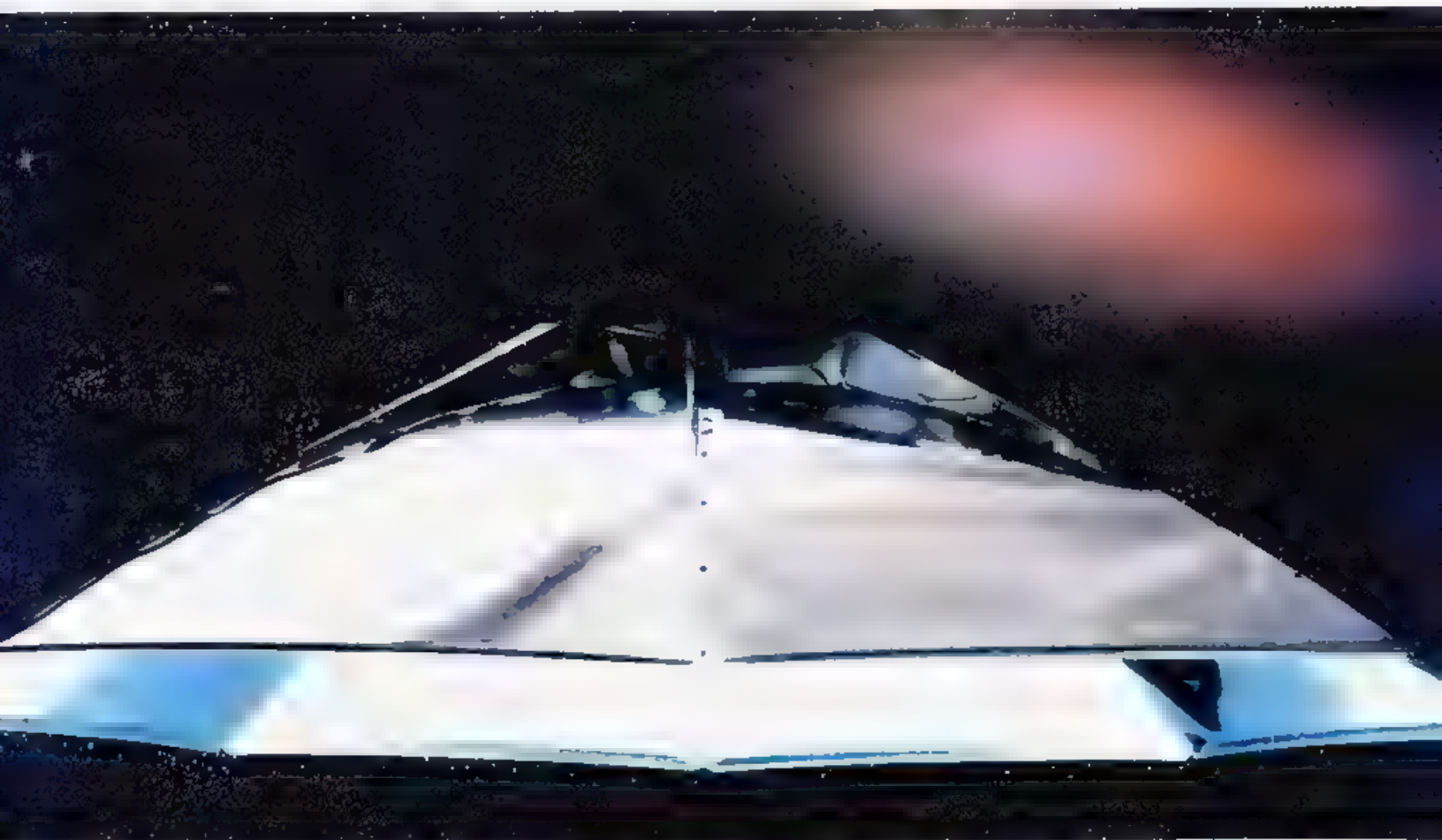
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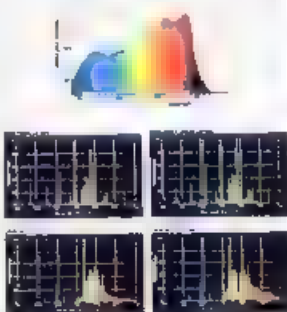
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LETTERS

continued from page 6

smoking pot my parents made me feel like a criminal. But I kept taking anyway. Now I'm at UCLA, where everyone I know accepts those who smoke. I know our generation will leave Ronnie's bullshit where it belongs—in the distant past. You'll be gone too, Mr. Newman, and I'll be smiling and smoking a fat, juicy reefer.

—A pot-growing American
Los Angeles, California

SPORE WARS

Really dug the shroom issue, but there is one point in Jerome Creek's "Stalking the Magic Mushroom" (Oct. '86) that could stand revision. When Creek says they discovered a number of undesirable *amanitas* mixed in the sack with the *cubensis* (because he'd gathered in the dark) he obviously didn't realize he was flirting with disaster. If *amanitas* were jumbled together with *cubensis*, couldn't spore powder from the dead y shroom rub off on the edibles?

—Southern Shroomer
Baton Rouge, Louisiana

Actually, even if Creek has eaten *amanita* spores, nothing would have happened. There's no *amanita* poison in the spores, any more than there's *psilocybin* in the spores of *psilocybe* mushrooms. By the way, even though *amanita* mushrooms are extremely toxic, shamanic tribal physicians in Siberia eat them ritually (see R. Gordon Wasson's beautiful *Soma: Divine Mushroom of Immortality*) for the sake of the visions they induce after they stop making them sick. According to anthropologists who've observed these ceremonies, the Siberians have their own peculiar way of reducing *amanita* toxicity. After the shaman eats the shroom, he or she pisses in a jar, and people drink the urine, so as to get high off the basic intoxicating ingredient purified of its cruder toxins by the shaman's liver. We do not recommend this method for our readers, but we do believe this is how the American government should conduct drug-urinalysis projects, as it is both ethical and organic.

BULLSHIT, NOT BUTYL

HIGH TIMES and what it symbolizes is just about out of business. I said it in 1960. Let the squares (the masses) in on dope and they'll ruin it. And they did. Now the new word is out in America, and the universal perception is undergoing a 180-degree carrots, not cocaine potatoes, not pot, asparagus, not acid, honey, not hash, hazle nuts, not horse molasses, not morphine. This new message couldn't be simpler: dope is no



fucking good, period, and when everybody believes it, you're out of business. I give you five years maximum.

—John Pelham
Highland, New York

Well, that sure beats five years mandatory!

NEWS FLASH Ed Hassle Disappears!!!

Humboldt County, California

Oct. 16, 1986

HIGH TIMES contributor Ed Hassle mysteriously disappeared while walking in a lightning storm last Sunday. The popular columnist has not been seen for four days.

"We'd just finished dinner and Ed decided to go for a walk," says Ms. Sunflower, Hassle's distraught, longtime companion. The couple was visiting friends in the area, accompanied by Ramjam, a Bangladesh guru. "It looked like a storm was brewing and there were a lot of lightning flashes, but Ed insisted on taking his regular constitutional," says Sunflower. "We've searched the entire area for four days and haven't had any sign of him."

Tragically, Hassle was on the verge of creating his life-long ambition: a special HIGH TIMES issue devoted to the Grateful Dead.

"Plans for the issue are going ahead full steam without Ed," says Steven Hager, Executive Editor of the magazine. The issue is scheduled for February, 1987. "Ed has disappeared before, and I'm convinced he'll turn up again," adds Hager hopefully.

LATIMER FOR ALDERMAN

Your October article on drug testing was one of the most intelligent, informative articles I have read in a long time. Is the editor Dean Latimer a member of the Libertarian Party? I am a Libertarian and we are very concerned with the current erosion of personal freedom under the Reagan administration. I would like to encourage support of our party by HIGH TIMES.

—Madame X
Kansas City, Missouri

Although the Libertarian party is surely filled with lovely people, official support from HIGH TIMES is the kiss of death. As for Latimer, he asserts he is a "card-carrying Village Independent Democrat who hopes everyone who reads HIGH TIMES will vote Mayor Ed Koch King of the World!"

FOUR BUCKS, CHEAP!

I have been an avid reader of HIGH TIMES for a long time, but lately I haven't bought your rag because it is so EEXXPPEENNSSIIIVVEE. I mean come on, don't you think four bucks is just slightly overcharging? You guys need to shape up your act. What happened to the cartoons? And how about some more tips on growing in the great outdoors?

—Eddie Crudd
Carbondale, Illinois

Sorry about the price tag. But you didn't really think our lavish color photography came CCHHEEAAPP did you? As for the outdoors, you might find it a bit safer inside these days.

The Greatest Addiction of All

by Jon Gettman,
NORML Director

crease their budgets but their authority. And they lie to and mislead the public in order to justify the exceptional steps they wish to take, steps which repudiate the principles upon which our country was founded.

The American Revolution was inspired by a long simmering, deeply felt distrust by the colonists of the men running the English government. They proudly asserted their liberty to exercise their natural rights, which, wrote John Dickinson in a pre-war pamphlet, "are created in us by the decrees of Providence, which establish the laws of our nature. They are born with us, exist with us; and cannot be taken from us by any human power without taking our lives. In short, they are founded on the immutable maxims of

In an immortal declaration, William Pitt, a man the King's men found to be too reasonable to run the government, said in 1763: "The poorest man in his cottage may bid defiance to all the force of the Crown. It may be frail, its roof may shake, the rain may enter—but the King of England cannot enter; all his forces dare not cross the threshold of this ruined tenement!"

Nearly 200 years later, in 1960, Barry Goldwater wrote *The Conscience of the Conservative*, which "is pricked by anyone who would debase the dignity of the individual human being." Our dignity is debased, by a government that not only seeks to barge into our living rooms and instruct our behavior, but also has dedicated itself to spreading lies about mari-

NORML — IZED NORML IZER

Power is the most addictive habit in the world. The moral influence that shaped the American Revolution and inspired our democracy demands that individual citizens challenge the abuse of power by our leaders. Modern politics is founded on the belief that the government's natural tendency to increase its power requires restraint. Conservatives are inspired by the belief that governmental power needs to be kept minimal in order to preserve individual liberty. Liberals are inspired by the belief that individual rights require protection from authoritarians throughout society.

The War on Drugs is really a war between two opposing ideologies about the management of our society. It is a struggle between authoritarians driven by their craving for ever-increasing power and patriots driven by the love of their democratic heritage.

Marijuana reform will eventually prevail because it is true to the principles that give our society its greatest strength. It will gain support from a diverse coalition of Americans because they abhor abuse of power in their name. When they understand how the War on Drugs has been the excuse for a steady increase in the power of the government to invade their privacy, whether they use drugs or not, they will demand an end to the war.

In the last few years marijuana and other drug use has been exploited by governmental agencies to not only in-

reason and justice."

One of these rights was and is held to be a right to privacy. It is this right that is protected by the Fourth Amendment of the United States Constitution which restrains the government from unreasonable search and seizures. However, the anti-drug crusade seeks to have police excused from this restraint as long as they act in "good faith." And the Fourth Amendment would have been quietly circumvented amidst the anti-drug hysteria of September, 1986 had it not been for a few brave conservatives in the Senate.

Like Robert Packwood, who seek to block the abuse of governmental power, no matter what the excuse.

But this is not the only assault on the Fourth Amendment. The anti-drug movement has secured court rulings which allow the government to hover over your back yard and spy on you. They have secured widespread support for forced urine testing. How would George Mason, the father of the Bill of Rights, react to a surprise urine test? "Mr. Mason, take off that wig, we don't want any contaminants in your pee. Now just fill this little bottle and you can go back to writing the Bill of Rights, just as long as you haven't been smoking any of those hemp plants in your garden."

The assertion of a right to be protected from governmental scrutiny precedes the American Revolution. Its advocates were inspired by the tradition of liberty established by the Magna Carta and nurtured by the English Constitution.

juana users and promoting their widespread persecution. Our dignity is debased when Carlton Turner, the President's drug advisor, encourages employers to discriminate against marijuana users by stating they are unfit for work. Our dignity is debased when the National Institute on Drug Abuse releases a story to the press that marijuana causes premature senility without mentioning that it would take the equivalent of 135 joints a day for 40 years to accomplish it, and that 50 joints a day has no effect on the brain.

Conservatism, Goldwater wrote, is guided by "the ancient and tested truths that guided our Republic through its early days (and they) will do equally well for us." Power corrupts, and "the natural tendency of men who possess some power to take unto themselves more power leads eventually to the acquisition of all power."

The 200th birthday of the Constitution is about to be celebrated. We must remember that we, the people, must assert our natural rights so that our society may prosper as our ancestors envisioned.

We believe, as those who brought about the American Revolution, that when faced with tyranny, "submission is a crime." We're not involved in a struggle over whether or not you have a right to smoke marijuana. It's a struggle over how much power we are willing to let the state accumulate at the expense of liberty. The time has come to remind our leaders of this, and begin anew our quest for liberty. ●

Since 1969, enough Americans have been arrested for possession of marijuana to empty the states of:



Oregon

(pop. 2,633,149)



Nevada

(pop. 944,038)



Idaho

(pop. 800,493)

And the cities of:

Fresno, CA (pop. 218,202)

Amarillo, TX (pop. 149,230)

Santa Fe, NM (pop. 48,899)

Spokane, WA (pop. 171,300)

Pueblo, CO (pop. 101,686)

Redding, CA (pop. 41,995)

Salt Lake City, UT (pop. 163,033)

Casper, WY (pop. 51,106)

Flagstaff, AZ (pop. 34,641)

And the towns of:

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In fact, almost 6,000,000 people have been arrested for possession of marijuana.

In 1984 alone, over 419,000 marijuana arrests were reported, one every minute and a half.

The government has pledged to continue. If you think enough is enough, get involved.

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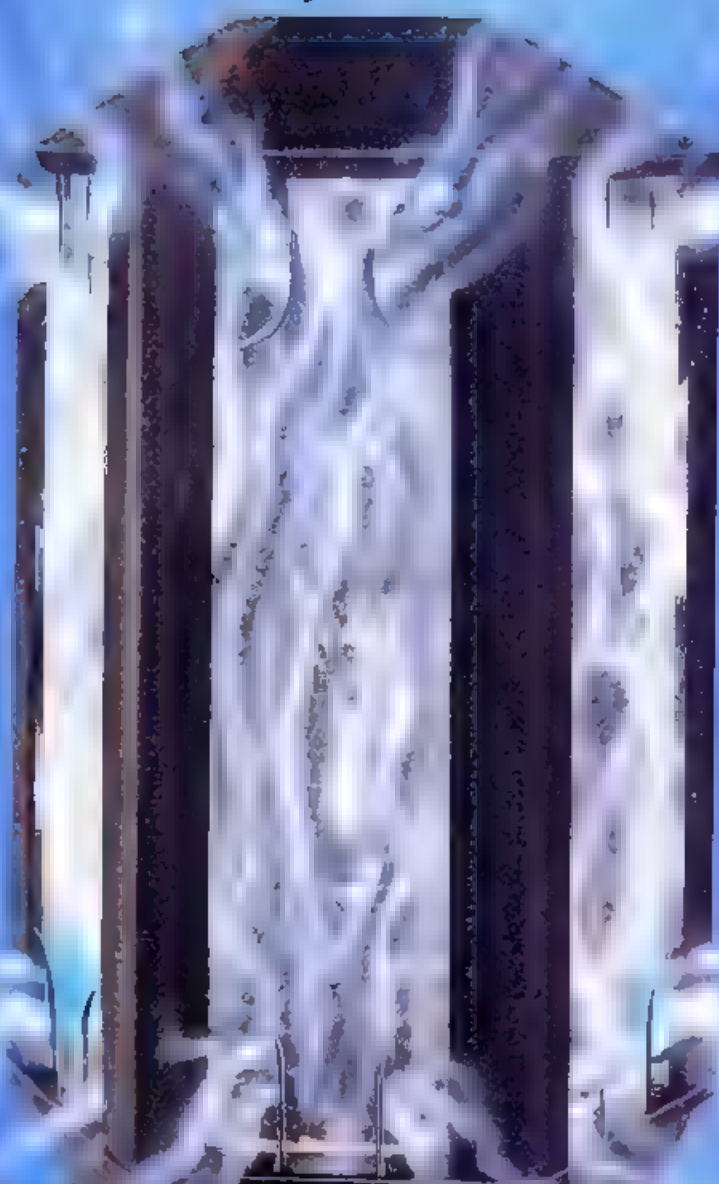
My masters thesis is on the cannabinoid profile of marijuana. I tell you this for historical footnote only.

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If you read all of the popular literature, I did. All of the scientific literature, I did. And look at every apparatus that is in High Times, you will find one common denominator. Every system, UP TILL NOW, has attempted to re-create Hawaii. I suggest that when you finally achieve the re-creation of Hawaii, you can do NO BETTER than Hawaii's results. AND WHAT ARE HAWAII'S RESULTS?

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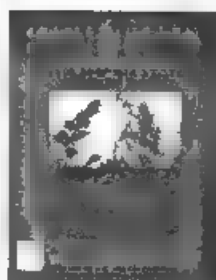
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105. MAY '84



108. AUGUST '84



110. OCTOBER '84



112. DECEMBER '84



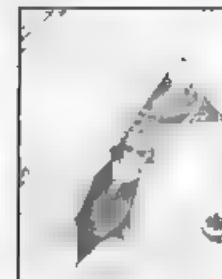
114. FEBRUARY '85



115. MARCH '85



117. MAY '85



119. JULY '85



120. AUGUST '85



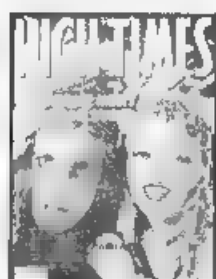
121. SEPTEMBER '85



122. OCTOBER '85



125. JANUARY '86



132. AUGUST '86



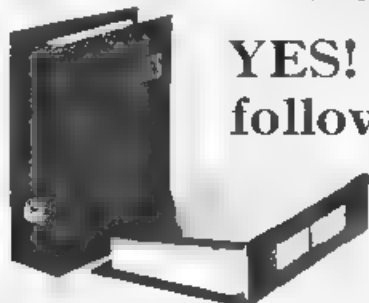
133. SEPTEMBER '86



134. OCTOBER '86



135. NOVEMBER '86



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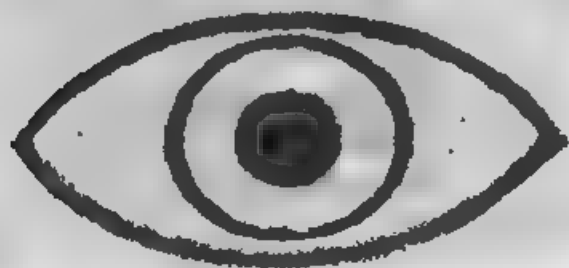
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A Survey of Top Drug Scientists
On The Crying Need
For Urine Surveillance

HIGHWITNESS NEWS

JANUARY '87 • NO. 137

MONITORING THE VOID



Now that *Newsweek* Magazine has shocked and outraged every decent, drug-fearing American parent by publishing explicit directions for urine-test cheating that can be followed by the simplest child, the issue of urine surveillance looms large in the crucial national debate on the "War on Drugs."

The discovery that untold millions of ardently committed narcotics addicts in every walk of American employment—from Wall Street investment firms down to subway motormen and sanitationmen, and even 'way down to *Rolling Stone* editors—are cheating their employers by salting and substituting their urinalysis samples, has staggered a drugs-troubled America.

HIGH TIMES has sworn to look into this calamity, and plumb it to the bottom. In the great American tradition of *investigative journalism*, from John Peter Zenger to Harriet Tubman to James Mills (*The Invisible Empire*, \$23.95 in hardback! Check it out, m'man!), we have left no disgusting cowflop unturned in our tireless search for the Truth. The following is only the first in another surely-to-be-endless series of shrivening reports on the epidemic cancer of drug-test-cheating which has declared war on our society.

In the course of reporting this initial report, ace investigative bloodhound Dean Latimer has uncovered evidence of an even greater threat to our children, our values, our Constitutional rights, and the very integrity of natural physics in the Universe: *Designer Urine!!!*

"They sell it to the kids," Latimer mutters darkly. "The kids call it Punk-Bunk Piss. It's nothing but freeze-dried urea with a couple secret ingredients, never mind what exactly. It's just a little yellowish powder sold in one-gram tinfoil packets like *cocaine*! The kid carries it around in his pocket, and when the gym coach throws a surprise urinalysis sweep of the Little League squad, *presto*—just take your eye off the kid long enough for him to get the piss cup to a warm-water tap, and there it is: a sample of *pure synthetic urine* that can pass every drug test from radioimmunoassay to gas chromatography-mass spectrometry to nuclear magnetic resonance! Synthetic urine! What sort of world are we leaving these poor innocent children to inherit? It's *corruption*!"

So in the next issue of HIGH TIMES—unless the powerful crime organizations behind Punk-Bunk Piss prevail on their associates in national politics and the DEA to "drop the hammer" on us—we'll have a full report on the fresh new threat and menace of Designer Urine.

Unless, of course, they want to bribe us. In that case, forget we ever mentioned Designer Urine.

—THE EDITORS

The President vs. The Pentagon

by Dean Latimer
NEW YORK CITY

In the midst of last autumn's general drug hysteria, the White House issued a highly-ballyhooed Executive Order, under the President's signature, which purported to mandate drug testing for all federal employees, or most of them, or some of

them, depending on how you interpreted its purposely ambiguous wording. Typical of the murk was this imponderable provision: "Procedures for providing urine specimens must allow individual privacy, unless the agency chief has reason to believe that a particular individual may alter or substitute the specimen to be provided."

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FEDS TO PROCEED BEYOND PISS TESTS

VOID



About two million employees of the United States federal government will very shortly face the prospect of being personally "tested" for indications of drug abuse, by the terms of a special executive order which was issued by the White House just before the mid-term Congressional elections last fall. In the excess of the monumental media drug mania which was then being fueled and exploited vigorously by both national political parties—as the safest, most popular, and least controversial political issue in the 1986 mid-term Congressional elections—President Reagan made a splendid public production of ordering "mandatory drug testing" for all federal employees whose work involves classified information, national security, protection of property, law enforcement, and so on. This move was interpreted as a tough, anti-permissive moral initiative by the Reagan Administration, and it undoubtedly gained many votes for those Republican Congressional candidates who were personally sponsored by President Reagan.

In reality, far from automatically ordaining drug tests for all federal employees, the

By Claire Winston-Levy
RYE, NEW YORK

President's order merely directed all the various heads of federal government agencies to come up with written plans—within three months from the date of the order—for a broad agency drug policy which will involve some drug testing, in some form or other. The order did not specify what parti-

cular sorts of drugs should be tested for, nor did it specify any particular sort of testing procedures. (The media and public only assumed urinalysis would be involved, since piss-testing was a subject of considerable sensational controversy just then). Now that the three-month deadline for compliance by the agency heads is nearing its due date, and the election oratory has been concluded and securely forgotten, it's interesting to investigate exactly what sort of drug testing procedures are really being considered by them.

The New Piss Prophets

The President's flamboyant drug-testing decree last September (which was accompanied by the spectacle of the President himself, and 70 of his top White House aides, urinating for drug tests to be performed by the U.S. Navy) was an instant gold mine for the dozen or so professional "piss prophets" of Washington: ex-government drug-abuse consultants who make millions of dollars by negotiating drug-program projects between big government agencies, large private corporations, and the few

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In other words, the heads of federal agencies—the Postmaster General, for example—would have to delegate to each of their hundreds of subordinate executives the ticklish task of picking out all the likely drug-takers on their staffs *before* they ever tested them, so that they could be watched closely while they piddled, to prevent them from escaping rightful detection at the piss-pot. Drug test hardliners scornfully termed this “Ronald Reagan’s Closed Door Policy,” and some of them got quite agitated about it.

At the Pentagon, someone in the office of Dr. John Mazucha—architect of the DoD’s urinalysis program, a perpetual legal catastrophe since 1982—decided to prod the President. He contacted a typically chuckleheaded UPI reporter, and fed him a line of “sincerely concerned” baloney that saw coast-to-coast print on 21 September, 1986. The Pentagon was sincerely concerned about the laxity of the President’s pisswatching provision, this UPI twit parroted, because it might harm innocent people. Your unwatched drug users—as the DoD knows from bitter experience—will *always* take advantage of privacy to switch their samples with the samples of non-dopers, so that the virtuous nondoper gets crucified and the doper walks free, smirking.

Of course, the UPI moron never thought to ask his ranking DoD source how it was that unwatched dopers would *ever* have access to the untainted samples of innocent peers. To the contrary, this ambitious chucklehead simply took this baloney to the White House, and confronted poor Meredith Rountree, in the Drug Abuse Policy office. The woman pondered this puzzling absurdity for a moment, and lamely responded: “It might mean a problem in terms of inaccurate results, but it’s a risk we’re willing to take.”

Since it now looked as if the President might have backed down, or changed his mind, or gotten confused, or just plain

forgotten some important sort of Drug Problem issue, a stern clarification was in order. That was provided the following week by Richard Willard, a handsome young goosestepper in the Justice Department’s Civil Division who served as the Administration’s point man on explicating this Executive Piss-Test Order. In testimony before the House Subcommittee on Human Re-

samples is undoubtedly such a tiny fraction of the general American population that Mr. Willard’s grand piss-test program will undoubtedly show a 99.999-percent drug-free federal workforce before the first fiscal quarter of its implementation.

The prospect of such an easy and painless route to victory in America’s everlasting “War on Drugs” intrigued us

The Justice Department explained to Congress that the point of piss tests was to terrorize stupid people, not to catch dopers.

sources, on 26 September. Willard explained that the point of this whole business—the piss tests, the pissurveillance, the whole *schmeaar*—was not really to catch dopers, but to terrorize the majority of stupid people.

Piss-watching was still *not* mandatory. Willard assured the Human Resources solons. “Although this might make it easier to adulterate a sample,” he allowed, “it has been our experience under testing programs that the mere fact that a test is required will ensure a deterrent effect. The percentage of employees who are sufficiently committed to illegal drug use that they are prepared to chemically tamper with a specimen, or to substitute a clean specimen, is so low as to have only marginal effect on the effectiveness of the program.”

Indeed, the number of drug-taking individuals who are too stupid to switch or salt their

greatly at HIGH TIMES. It tied in quite beautifully with a long, incredibly boring canvas we’d just completed of eminent drug-abuse experts on the question of urinalysis surveillance. The following is what we’d learned *before* the Justice Department’s Richard Willard put it all so beautifully into one paragraph.

Sidney Cohen

Dr. Sidney Cohen, author of numerous textbooks and original research papers in the field of substance abuse, permanent adviser to the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA), and deeply-tenured at UCLA’s Neuropsychiatric Institute, is universally regarded as the ultimate authority on virtually every issue involving drugs. Even though he accepts calls from HIGH TIMES, and makes statements to us for open attribution, Dr. Cohen enjoys the unalloyed esteem of everyone in the profession.

Best of all, Dr. Cohen has no personal financial stake in any drug-testing company or commercial laboratory.

“Any testing program is meaningless without it,” Dr. Cohen responded when asked about the necessity of direct visual surveillance of urine donors. “Users can always bring along a quantity of clean urine and substitute it, unless there’s a monitor to oversee the voiding.”

Dr. Cohen appeared to believe that HIGH TIMES readers might be shocked to hear this. “It’s really no more intrusive for a man than using a urinal at an airport or restaurant,” he offered gently. “For a woman, it’s similar to leaving a door open, and having someone outside viewing.”

He may have wondered why we were so sincerely grateful to hear this from him.

Robert Willette

If the Fortune 500 team ever checked out the professional piss-test profiteers, they would probably discover that Dr. Robert Willette of Maryland has made the most money off it as a single individual. From 1974 to 1981, Dr. Willette (Ph.D. in chemistry, not medicine) was in the public trough, laboring in NIDA’s division of Clinical Research on the development of quick, cheap drug-urine tests for NIDA’s co-contractors, the Syntex/Syva and Hoffman-LaRoche drug companies. As soon as the first EMITs went into commercial production from Syntex/Syva in 1981, Dr. Willette abandoned government employ for the merry life of a commercial urinalysis consultant.

One of his first private contracts was with the Greyhound company, for whom he gave expert testimony in a landmark labor-arbitration case involving several bus drivers and mechanics who’d been fired by the EMIT he’d co-developed. Although all the grievants in this landmark case were promptly awarded total reinstatement with back pay, Willette’s scientific testimony against them was marvellously exciting, interesting, and entertaining.

With that in mind, you can read here the full extent of Dr. Willette’s comments on the necessity of piss-watching to

HIGH TIMES after many, many calls to his office at Duo Research—his personal piss-test company—in Annapolis.

"No, observation isn't necessary in a random testing program," Willette told HIGH TIMES Magazine. "It wouldn't make much sense for a person to carry around a bladder of substitute urine continually, would it?"

Salt? Soap? Drano? Ammonia? Synthetic freeze-dried urine, Doctor Willette?

"People usually pay us for information like that," he wisecracked smugly, and that was that.

In fact, lab companies nowadays pay major megabucks to Duo Research to send them "quality control" urine specimens, prepared by Dr. Willette himself. And yet many employers contract with these labs to piss-test their own hired help, under the assumption that the proficiency of the labs can be independently verified! There's one born every minute.

Forrest Tennant

Dr. Forrest Tennant of Southern California may finally be in the White House by the time you read this. In 1981, everyone in the professional substance-abuse field had Dr. Tennant figured for Ronald Reagan's personal Dope Czar in the White House Office of Drug Policy. Staid, respectable, eminently presentable (though lamentably ill-toupeed), author of numerous mediocre clinical reports for NIDA, mayor of West Covina on the Republican ticket: a shoo-in, everyone assumed of Dr. Tennant.

But somehow the Dope Czar job went to a vile little chemist from Mississippi—Dr. Carleton Turner, a political chum of Reagan's Texas honcho, James Baker—and Dr. Forrest Tennant fell gradually into urinalysis after that. At this writing, he's the main piss-test advisor for the National Football League, and thus an obvious choice for an interview on the crying need for urinalysis observers.

Problem is, Tennant's scared to be seen talking to HIGH TIMES. When we call his offices at Community Medi-

cal Services, Inc. in West Covina, the poor women who answer the phone there have to cover for their employer's cowardice. They are obviously not accustomed to doing this as a regular thing. It became particularly painful when, in an attempt to break the ice last fall, we obtained a copy of a lengthy and detailed piss-test prospectus Tennant had presented to Bowie Kuhn of Major League Baseball in 1983. Hours after we'd asked his receptionist for an opportunity to speak to the doctor about it, she called back with a list of questions he had given her to ask us.

"Where did you get that document?" was the main question asked repeatedly. "Who did you get it from?" It was all very nasty and embarrassing and uncomfortable for everyone involved, and of course, we never got close to the all-important social issue of Monitoring the Void.

If Dr. Forrest Tennant ever *does* wind up in the White House (Dr. Turner appears to be on the skids as of this writing), then he'll be a federal public servant, and you can call him yourself to demand his views on piss-testing. The White House Dope Czar's office number is 202 456-6554.

Not Robert Angarola

Robert Angarola used to work in the White House Office of Drug Policy under Jimmy Carter and so he now is a professional drug-urinalysis consultant in private industry. One of the clients of Mr. Angarola (he's a lawyer, no "Dr." nonsense here) is the Wall Street investment-banking firm of Kidder Peabody in Manhattan here. Kidder Peabody's personnel director, Ed Weinhmeyer, has been all over the national media and the halls of Congress lately touting Kidder Peabody's urinalysis program, almost as though Weinhmeyer were a man with secret political ambitions. Or maybe it's just coincidence that whenever William Safire or William Buckley denounce the Administration's piss-test posturing as sleazy and reprehensible, you tend to see news stories a few days later about the wonderful piss-test program currently in wildly successful action at Kidder Peabody on Wall Street.

After one such production late last summer, HIGH TIMES attempted to interview Mr. Weinhmeyer, and wound up speaking with a Mr. Covington in Kidder Peabody's

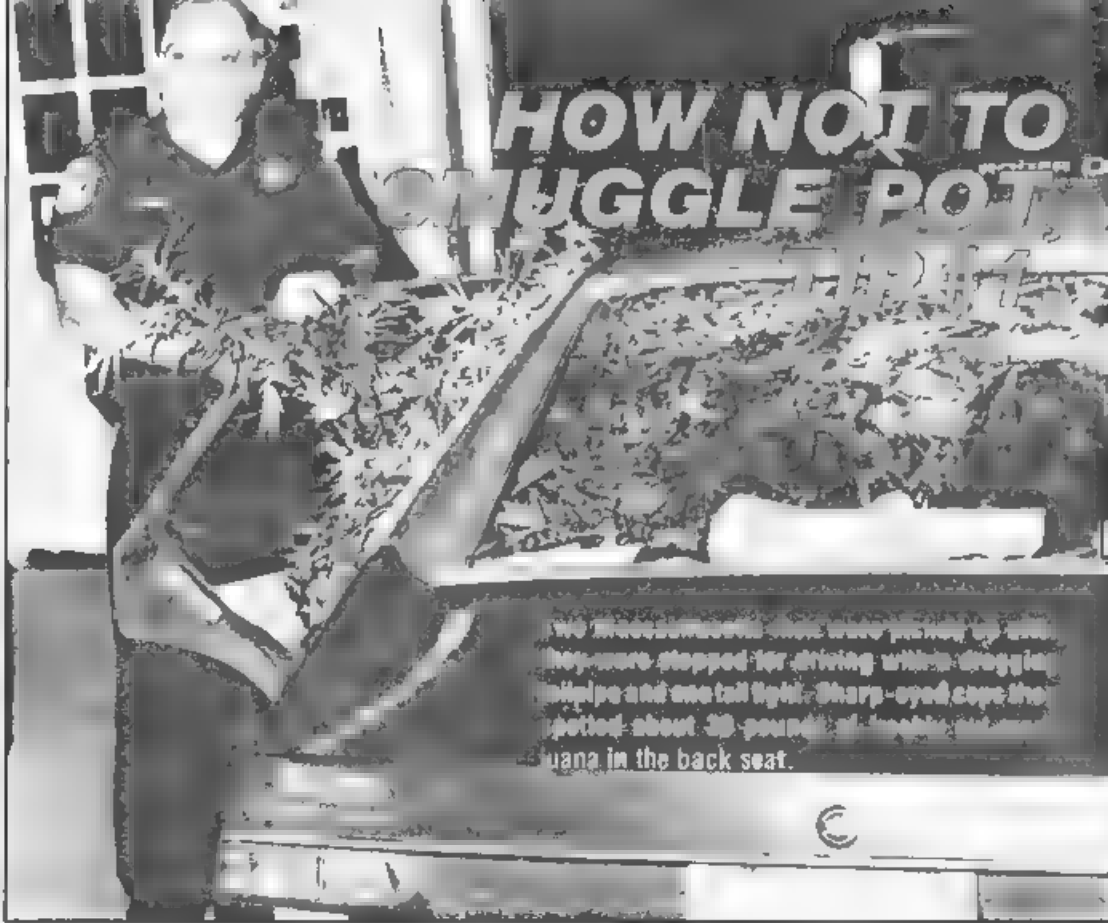
media relations office. After a lot of routine questions, we asked him if K-P's employees were *watched* while they furnished their specimens.

"Absolutely not," he said firmly, as if we had charged him with Peeping Tomism.

Then we explained how incredibly easy it is to beat these tests; how everyone who's into drugs at all knows exactly how to do it; how all the Yuppies and Yupstresses on Wall Street know that Kidder Peabody's urinalysis program is a contemptible sham. And did Mr. Covington have anything to say about it, before we went on the national stands with this spicy little item?

The result was an extended philosophical colloquy between HIGH TIMES and Mr. Covington, an honest, sincere individual—genuinely concerned about his co-employees' health, and honestly deluded about the health risks posed by drugs—who could not understand why anyone would want to torpedo his benevolent urinalysis program. "Sure, the drug users can beat us," he conceded. "But don't you see, the *point* of the program is to offer help to anyone who needs it!"

continued over



WORLD WIDE PHOTOS

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large commercial laboratories which can do adequate large scale drug testing. The most eminent of the piss prophets—such as former DEA chief Peter Bensinger, former NIDA chief Robert DuPont, and former NIDA chemist Robert Willette—profited immensely and immediately by the stampede of federal bureaucrats to gain expert advice about drug-testing technology and procedures.

In the recent past, however, numerous companies and agencies advised by these eminent piss prophets have been taken to court by eminent union lawyers. In cases where the drug-testing programs have not been abandoned altogether, they've been degraded into cosmetic voluntary programs, perpetual displays of absurd (and very expensive) hypocrisy. The top name ex-government piss prophets have, in consequence, begun to become notorious as a warren of expensive tech-talking spongers on government and industry; and the heads of federal agencies, in promulgating their anti-drug-abuse programs, have begun consulting less obviously self-interested drug experts for second opinions.

One rising star in the field of professional drug-abuse consultation is Dr. Arthur McBay, chief toxicologist for the Medical Examiner's office of the state of North Carolina. Dr. McBay, who also teaches pharmacology at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, has for many years advised the Defense Department and other government agencies about drug-related issues. Since he has never promoted drug urinalysis as the "sure fix" for the nation's everlasting drug problems, Dr. McBay's consultation is very highly regarded nowa days by administrators who've seen where piss-testing invariably winds up: in court.

Dr. McBay's advice may be a little stiff for many federal administrators and private employees to swallow, however. He proposes that they should test their workers (and themselves) for alcohol, along with everything else.

True Horrors of Booze

As a coroner's officer, McBay (addressing federal agency heads) observes in a memo

which was recently obtained by HIGH TIMES, he investigates approximately 100 fatal alcohol overdoses every year, and 3000 other mortalities directly related to alcohol, such as fatal auto accidents. "All the other substances combined," McBay notes (appending an itemized list of fatalities due to heroin, cocaine, etc.) "account for less than 100 deaths per year." Moreover, he mentions, "No deaths were attributed to diazepam [Valium], amphetamines, LSD, or marihuana [sic]."

Then McBay itemizes the very same statistics which are invariably cited by the professional piss prophets to justify mass urine-testing in industry and government: a 1984 report from Research Triangle Institute, a government-contracted think tank, estimating a sum of \$60 billion lost to the American economy each year because of drug abuse. The very same RTI study, McBay points out, shows \$116 billion lost per year because of alcohol.

By any sane set of priorities, therefore, alcohol testing should certainly be an element in any drug-screening program, McBay argues. The much-acclaimed RTI survey incontrovertibly demonstrates that alcohol imposes a phenomenally higher economic toll on American society than the abuse of all other drugs combined. And to give a clearer idea of the hazards of alcohol, compared to other drugs, to life and limb in this country, McBay provides a breakdown of a four year cadaver survey he published in the *Journal of Forensic Science* in 1984.

Of 600 dead drivers examined by the North Carolina coroner's office during this survey, 79 percent were found to have substantial blood levels of alcohol, indicating that they were drunk when they crashed and died. The only other drug which showed up in these bodies with any statistical significance at all was marijuana, which was found in eight percent of them. Of these bodies in which THC was found, though, 87 percent had been drunk on alcohol at the time they died. The appearance of THC in the remaining two or three bodies is no certain indication that the drivers were stoned on pot at the time they crashed their cars, of course. "The effects of marihuana," McBay mentions elsewhere in this memo, "last about

two hours, but the non-psychoactive metabolite might be found in urine for a week or two."

Crackdown on Lushes?

Testing for alcohol would not involve invasive urinalysis procedures, by McBay's recommendation. Existing breath and saliva tests for alcohol yield a much quicker and more reliable indication of whether a person has been drinking, and whether his or her consciousness is impaired or performance is reduced. "Adequate personnel, procedures, and instruments are available for testing for alcohol, and the results can be accurately interpreted," McBay assures the Government. "This is not true for the widespread testing of other drugs that is being attempted at the present time." When employers try to sack employees on the basis of tests that can't tell exactly what drug they've taken, or how much of it, or how long ago they took it (the problems with every single drug test except alcohol tests), then no wonder those employers get in expensive legal trouble as a result, McBay hints.

But even alcohol tests are inadequate to securely prove the premeditated "use" of the drug, McBay warns, and should never be routinely used as the basis for firings and discipline. "If workers are discovered who have drug problems, it is more cost-effective to rehabilitate them than to fire them," counsels McBay. Statistically, workers who develop alcohol dependencies tend to have been on the job for several years before the problem begins to manifest itself; the cost of rehabilitating a trained employee is vastly smaller, in nearly every case, than training a new employee to fill the slot. Also, people who develop drug and alcohol problems, and lose their jobs as a result, almost invariably wind up in public hospitals, or in jails, or working in the criminal drug-trafficking industry forever: at a cost to general society of billions of more dollars. "Advocates of summary dismissal on the grounds of alcohol and drug testing should prove that their testing program is a cost-effective way of protecting the public, the employer, and the employee," McBay dryly suggests to the professional piss prophets. ●

continued from previous page

Then we called Robert Angarola's law office in Washington, to inquire whether he had ever mentioned this nasty little *watching* business to his kindly, paternalistic, disingenuous clients on Wall Street before accepting his consulting fee from them. Angarola turned

out to be just absolutely sound-proof though—exactly 30 phone calls over the space of six weeks went unanswered—and so the poor man just never learned that he had something serious to answer for here.

Peter B. Bensinger

"Peter B," as the field labs in the DEA used to call him (between obscene and contemptuous epithets, typically) was

forcibly cast out of the public trough in 1982 by President Reagan. And although he enjoys a comfortable annuity from the Brunswick company, which merchandises paraphernalia employed by sportsmen everywhere, Peter B. Bensinger has achieved gainful new employment as a urinalysis consultant in the private sector.

Talking to Bensinger used to be great fun for anyone at

HIGH TIMES. "I'm sorry," he'd always say politely, immediately after hearing who was on the line, "but I don't think it's permissible to say anything at all for publication in that magazine. I hope you can understand my position."

But that was a few years, and a few million dollars in piss-test profits, in the past. Peter B. is now partners with former

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READERS' HARVEST REPORT



ARIZONA

It was a great year. I started 200 plants in April. Transplanted them into two patches in May. By June they were six feet tall and growing like hell. By July the males had shown and these perty girls were big and buddy. Around September 14, I picked 100 plants and got close to 50 pounds of primo Buzzard Ridge Bonza Buds and a few Bear Buds too. Down here we grow way out in the Badlands. You don't have to worry about getting ripped off or seen by plane in the bottom of some canyon where no man has gone before. The only problems I had were critters. If it wasn't the bears eating up my trashcans and drip lines, then it was javelinas (pigs) rooting up the plants looking for bugs. But we took care of them: blood meal, sulphur, poison corn, deer and rabbit repellent, and a shotgun worked well together. Best of luck to all my fellow conspirators.

H---
Sedona, Arizona

CALIFORNIA

September 23: weather cooling at 4,000 feet; plants maturing; colas swelling, resin copious. Aromas sweet and pungent lay entwined in the cold still morning of Fertile Dell Plantation. Surviving the rodents of spring and summer are 220 females. The bears have moved on to feed on acorns—tired of slurping my jugs of vitamin B, concentrate while chewing drip line and popping chunks of guano. We crossed our fingers in early September. CAMP never came, first time in three years. I wonder what happened? Did their funding get diverted to piss testing? Last year, I watched the helicopters harass the lowland below Fertile Dell. My system in the wilderness is automated. I'm almost never there. The CAMP commandoes love to bust mom and pop at the homestead, not Mr. Rainmatic—got no hands to cuff. Bud yield looks very good. Plants are 3 to 12 feet tall. I hope to harvest 75 pounds of purple Afghan. I took a sample cut today. My last bud, Vintage '85, stash is half gone. Next week I will video Vintage '86 for my archives. Then harvest will begin in earnest (details and photos to follow).

[LWL]
California highlands forest

TRANS HIGH MARKET ANALYSIS

The summer was warm and humid with good rainfall. Very good since weather. This area is growing very fast. The hills are shrinking, causing super high pressure for the few available sites. I transplanted three times because of illegal deer hunters. The effects of Ronald Reagan's war on drugs were apparent: my partner lost many good children to CAMP. On the whole, it was a good year for growers in the Ventura, San Luis Obispo counties, but probably the last. With increasing fines and police pressure, it's time to quit or go elsewhere.

[XXXXXXXX]
Thousand Oaks, California

This year's crop has done well. The summer was a mild one. Yield from my Afghan was 1 to 1 1/4 lb. per plant. Some early rain caused mold on some plants. One patch was ripped off and the whole area was buzzed by CAMP 'copters and small planes.

Ty-Bud
Sonoma County, California

After a few months of sharing clones with friends with a big private back yard (and the intent to split the harvest 50/50), we lost everything to the gardener's "apprentice" who ripped the plants out by the roots and dragged them home for himself. Well, folks, I'm sick of rip-off low lifes preying on other people's labor of love. I'm also sick of the show-and-tell snitch disease that's infecting people watching too much TV news. It's time to go indoors, our last refuge before the grave.

Sick of Dried Shake
Chino, California

COLORADO

Although it wasn't a huge harvest, we had a great weight of bud to plant ratio. The whole season was very quiet with no hassles, low flying planes, or any other pests. The outdoor grower has a sixth-sense for Ripped in the Rockies.
Dinosaur, Colorado



● Notes From
The Front ●

GEORGIA

Me and two accomplices planted 30 beautiful females. We nursed those plants like babies for 5 1/2 months 'til one Tuesday morning on a hot day in August, when we noticed we had two males! We went out to cut down the males on a Saturday. I was putting them in my trunk when I noticed a 'copter overhead. The 'copter spotted our crop. 28 females ranging from 10 to 12 feet. One of my partners took off through the woods to distract the copter, while me and my other partner got into the car. I noticed the 'copter facing me as we headed for the main highway. The 'copter followed us all the way home. He circled the house twice and then went back to the field. We went back early next morning and found nothing but little nubs sticking out of the ground. A week later, I read in the local paper a \$75,000 crop had been destroyed.
Weed-eater Victim
Atlanta, Georgia

ILLINOIS

Aside from a two-week stay in the hospital during which I lost half my sativa harvest to spider mites, this has been a good year. The funds for the grow room were well-spent. I am still waiting for my main harvest, when my females will be six months old and a good eight feet tall. My next crop will be grown hydroponically.

Rockford, Illinois

continued on page 27

TRANS-HIGH QUOTATIONS MARKET

Prices current as of October 15, 1986.
Send quotations to: THMQ,
211 E. 43rd St., New York, NY 10017.

MAJOR MARKETS

New York, NY	Hawaiian "direct delivery" Mostly sativa: fruit, spicy, very rich.	oz	250-325
	Skunk #1 "the real thing, sweet & perfumy"	lb	3500-4000
		1/4-oz	7
		oz	200-250
	Thai, "brown & funky, not the lime greens"	lb	2500-3000
		oz	150-200
		lb	2500-3000
	Northern Lights indoor indica bud, heavy resin	1/4-oz	60
		1/2-oz	125
		lb	2500-3000
San Francisco, CA	New York State Indica	lb	(Same as Skunk #1) 3000
	Early "Pearl" or genetically grown, fruit skunk, wonderful high	lb	
	NY upstate indica hybrid "indoor outdoor grown"	1/4-oz	70
	Mexican, "low octane" sinse	oz	75-100
	Afghan buds, best at city, rare	oz	150-200
	Mexican greens, pretty good	lb	2400-2600
		oz	100-150
	Thai, dry, golden	lb	1400-1600
		oz	160-180
	Mexican scout bag dirt weed, seeds	lb	1800-2000
New Brunswick, NJ	Rasta buds, "best Jamaican"	oz	50-80
		lb	600-800
	Japanese hash, dark & rich	oz	150-170
		lb	1700-200
	Mushrooms, high quality cubensis	oz	40-170
		lb	1000-1400
	LSD blotter "easy to find"	oz	75-150
		lb	450-800
	MOMA wide spread use	one	2
	Crystal meth common	one	50-100
Appleton, WI	Coke use very rare	one	6-10
		gm	100-120
		gm	120-190
		oz	120-150
		lb	1300-1400
	Mexican, "seedy and stemmy"	1/4-oz	25
		oz	80
	P. Cubensis, freeze-dried, fresh	oz	80
	LSD, black pyramid "tripendicular"	one	6
		oz	450-500
Chatsworth, CA	LSD, Pegasus, "not so hot"	one	4
	LSD, Red Ant space trip	one	4
		oz	400-500
	LSD, Blue Dwarf only in Appleton	one	2
		oz	400-450
	XFL "questionable"	one	20
	Cocaine, all over the place, but who needs it?	gm	100
	Gold Thai buds (on the stick) smells spicy	oz	250
		lb	2500
	Black hash, oil base, sticky one hot shit	oz	22-24
New Paltz, NY	Acid, Red Dragon blotter "a little on the speedy side but very strong and trippy"	2	2000
		oz	500
		1/2-oz	125
	Acid, blotter print is on music notes "extremely clean, 12 hours"	one	3
		oz	100
		100L	800
	Crank disoxecephalidrine "nervous shattering"	gm	40
		oz	700-900
		oz	250-300
		oz	200-250

Honolulu, HI	Pakaloni (Hawaiian sinse) lb	1/2 gm	50
		1/4 gm	20
		1/2 oz	35-40
		1/4 oz	10
		oz	100
		lb	2-3

Prices increase 50%-200% when exported. Main exports: Kona gold, Halo high, Puna buds, Wamea Wipeona, A. ghani orange hash.

Lexington, KY	Red-haired sinse	oz	85
		1/4 lb	210
	Local Homegrown, green	oz	40
		lb	65-80
	Hash, straight from Amsterdam	3-gm	25
	Hash, oil "super stoner"	gm	20
	LSD, Purple Barrel	hit	4
		oz	30
		gm	80
		gm	7

New Brunswick, NJ	Miami Coke	oz	35
	Opium "very Chinchilly"	1-gal	55
	Billy O. Corn Moonshine	2-gal	55
	Sinsemilla, pseudo sinse w/red-hairs	oz	80-120
	"OK" origin unknown	lb	100
	Afgani/Mex hybrid indoor bud, "strongest I've ever smoked"	oz	200
		lb	2000
	22nd generation N.J.	oz	110
	Mexican sinse SMEX, green-brown buds, "a little old but good"	1/4-oz	40
		lb	117
	Columbian gold sweet happy pot, "never thought I'd see you again"	oz	110
		1/4 lb	350

Owensboro, KY	XTC (MDMA) "Love thy neighbor"	1	10-15
	Coke, "nothing special"	1/4 gm	25
		1/2 gm	45
		gm	90
		1/4-oz	40
		1/2 lb	400-550
	Ky skunk buds	1/4-oz	25-30
	2 toké wonder and	oz	100-125
	Local, grown sinse "reliable happy pot"	1/4-oz	20-25
	Colombian (seedy) "headache weed"	oz	80-100
	Leaves & shake "rip off"	1/4-oz	18-25
		oz	50-75
	Mushrooms, "very rare"	gm	7-10
	Acid, orange sun shine & purple mcs, some speedy	hit	5-7
	Coke "Here?"	gm	100-150
	Forget it	gm	100-150
	Crank, cut bad	1/4 gm	25-30
	Ca. sinse, "its gnammy"	oz	25-30
	Local weed, local motion	lb	1700-2000
	Mexo-Mx "seeds gators"	oz	90-110
		lb	1100-1500
	Mushrooms, "blue tickles, real scarce"	1/4-oz	30
		oz	75
	Cocaine 40% pure Rocky Mountain High	gm	100
		3 1/2 gm	280
	LSD, "gooney-birds"	one	2
	LSD "white-light run, the tourist trap"	one	2
		100-100	
	LSD blotter "same as ever"	one	1
	Speed, crystal, bad	gm	30
	XTC (MDMA), "rare but fuckin' fantastic"	one	10

Santa Cruz, CA	Crack, cut bad	1/4 gm	25-30
	Ca. sinse, "its gnammy"	oz	25-30
	Local weed, local motion	lb	1700-2000
	Mexo-Mx "seeds gators"	oz	90-110
		lb	1100-1500
	Mushrooms, "blue tickles, real scarce"	1/4-oz	30
		oz	75
	Cocaine 40% pure Rocky Mountain High	gm	100
		3 1/2 gm	280
	LSD, "gooney-birds"	one	2
	LSD "white-light run, the tourist trap"	one	2
		100-100	
	LSD blotter "same as ever"	one	1
	Speed, crystal, bad	gm	30
	XTC (MDMA), "rare but fuckin' fantastic"	one	10

Virginia Beach, VA	Va. homegrown	1/4-oz	50-55
	Homegrown buds	1/2-oz	55-65
	Purple Hair Sinse "little or no seeds"	oz	120-130
	Tennessee home-grown, "decent"	oz	115-120
	LSD, Purple Haze macrodots	10	40
	LSD Window Pane	blotter	5
	LSD Double Dip	blotter	5
	"Looney Tunes"	blotter	5
	LSD Zodiac	blotter	5
	LSD Doonesbury	blotter	5
	LSD Magic Carpet	blotter	5
	LSD #1 s	blotter	4
	LSD Green Globe	blotter	6
	LSD Red or Blue Pyramid	blotter	5

TORONTO:	Hard pref prices & sing. id	2	2700-3000
Kabul	white & blue plain sacks	oz	250
	good supply	oz	150
	respected quality	oz	150
VANCOUVER:	good supply	2	2300-2500
Kabul	presses	oz	250
	white & blue plain sacks	oz	150
	good supply	oz	150
	respected quality	oz	150
Local green	presses	oz	100-150
Island lobotomy	oz	300	
Skunk	oz	250	

IN THE BOONDOCKS

Duson, LA	Homegrown skunk weed, Quality is good, but not real fresh	1/4-lb	775
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MICHIGAN

This was a good year. The garden yielded well over six pounds of primo smoke. I had to pick early because of heavy CAMP activity in the area. The plants were started outside in March and harvested by September 15, mostly indica.

The Spiderman
Leslie, Michigan

MISSISSIPPI

As a former life-long resident of Northern California, I moved to the woods of southern Mississippi six years ago to relax and settle down with my wife. For five years I grew my own private stash behind the house. I do not sell any of this smoke. Someone I know was arrested 100 miles away trying to sell bogus speed to a narc. The narc asked for names and he spit out mine. We were raided and thrown in jail (including my wife). NORML gave us the name of a local lawyer, who took all the money we had. Days have stretched into weeks. We are out of hope. Any legal aid or advice or money to help save us from this super oppressive small redneck town called Forrest County, Mississippi would be appreciated.

Sheldon A. Webber
316 Forrest Street
Cell Block 31
Hattiesburg, Mississippi 39401

OHIO

I had an excellent year with first generation indica seeds and good old fashioned cow shit. Some friends suggested I prune plants early and continue all season. It was tuff. Planted 21 plants and pulled 10 males, leaving 11 females. All sinse, three to eight feet tall. Purple buds, blonde buds, and mixed purple and blonde.

Pigglet
Southeastern Ohio

Good year for outdoor crops except for fungi and ripoffs. Skunk, Columbian, Hawaiian, Thai, 12th generation with red devil purple sinse. Yes, I was buzzed by low flying copters.

Stimie and Flyin' Lion
Cleveland, Ohio

A great season for outdoor growing. The weather conditions were superb with plenty of rainfall. All my plants were started in the first week of May from seed. They were planted Memorial Day weekend with a little help from my friends. My fertilizers were lime, 12-12-12, and bloodmeal. They were included at each planting site. I said "good-bye" for one month. On June 30th, I went

out to check what nature allowed to grow. Half was devoured by rabbits, woodchucks, and deer. It was quite a letdown to see such little result from my labors. I pinched back what was left to keep the height down and get quality instead of long, lanky, obvious plants. My biggest success was alongside an airport runway. Through July, I went out to check three times. This was also a fantastic year for berries, which gave me a good excuse to be "out roaming in the wild." I got terrifically stoned off what leaf I pinched. Never once did I attempt an irrigation system. Rainfall was consistent. I had another good site not far from a back country road. A herd of deer stomped one of my plants. The stock was broken but still intact. Later, it developed five good upshoots. I was overjoyed. In August, to my sorrow, the field was mowed by its owner. I salvaged four oz. of fantastic leaf to smoke. In the second week of September, a friend of mine lost seven ladies to thieves. My buddy was devastated. I was horrified and prematurely harvested by airport plants for fear they would be stolen. I ended up with enough for my personal stash. What little bud I have is dynamite. Growing and brewing are my favorite pastimes and I'm looking forward to 1987 with eager anticipation. I'm not getting older, I'm getting better.

Resel der Bauer
Northern Ohio

It was not a good year for me. I've been growing for five years and although I've learned a lot, the spring was wet and I lost my first set of plants (clones from the indoor winter crop). Second set of seedlings got eaten by slugs. Third set was late and I was ready to give up, but put them in the field on July 1. They are doing well, 17 females and 3 males (including one clone that miraculously survived). I always have an indoor crop of 4 to 6 plants in the winter. As for CAMP, I don't know what was going on in the sky, but I sure get nervous when planes fly overhead.

The Mountain Plumber
Northeastern Ohio

PENNSYLVANIA

As of September 21, I harvested seven ounces of sativa buds in a 50 cubic foot grow room with a 400 watt M.H. lamp with a passive hydro system. All four plants were clones. My outside garden has 11 clones, 12 to 15 foot tall. I hope the plants are ripe by mid-October. Within a 25-mile radius of my house, two gardens were raided by State Police. One of these gardens had 331 plants!!!

Rasta Rob
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

We had a fair growing year, but we were hampered in mid-September by mildew. The type of herb we grow usually gives an energetic, positive high and takes until mid-October to complete its cycle. Therefore

because of the mildew, we were forced to harvest many plants that were not fully mature. But as farmers, we accept our fate and truly love the type of high from our crop. We have 15 percent of the crop still growing (as of Oct. 10th). The seeds from some of these plants will be used for a base for a stronger, more resistant plant in the future. We continue to strive to bring America the best high possible. This year (our 10th) we got only 25 pounds.

A&J
Thompson, Pennsylvania

TEXAS

The harvest this year promises to be the best ever, despite some recent large busts in the area. Homegrown is everywhere and cheap—which means soon the buds will follow. I have some indoors but I still have the majority outdoors to soak up that plentiful south Texas sunshine. They are well hidden and even though 'copters are more plentiful than ever this year (one actually flew over the garden while I was crouched beneath a bush), I have become very good at camouflaging my beauties from those low-flying assholes, and I don't have too much to worry about. The sativas are big, bulging and beautiful, but not quite ready. The skunk is already bagged and mind-boggling.

Mundo Hurt
San Antonio, Texas

VERMONT

A good year overall. I started them inside, around late February to May, and had them sexed inside. I harvested about two pounds, all at different times. The sheriff flew over this year a few times, but we're getting too smart for him. We had lots of rain and only 13 sunny days. Indica loves the sun. Lots of small buds, but quality is high.

MAX
Southern Vermont

A bad year. We started with 200 sprouts indoors in May. Early August we were concentrating our efforts on 50 plants. After the plants sexed, we cut down 10 males. Since our female to male ratio was high, we were excited. In late August we were busted. At 7 a.m. the state troopers knocked on the door with a piece of paper in hand. It said they could do anything they damn well pleased, and they did! Person or persons who narked still unknown. Luckily a friend who had his plants at our place moved them a week before the bust (he had them in portable milk crates). Unluckily, 3/4 of his sinse plants were stolen before harvest. He was pissed. I know growing pot is illegal, but stealing someone else's crop is even more of a crime. We harvested two well hidden plants that escaped the hands of the law and scum-sucking rip-offs. **Some is better than none.**
Green Mountain Power
Burlington, Vermont.

ACTIVIST NEWS

IN THE EYE OF THE STORM

Activist News by Burt Neal, NORML Projects Coordinator

At the end of September and the beginning of October of the past year, a storm of hurricane strength overcame Washington D.C. This hurricane became known as "Hurricane Hysteria" and she was a tough one to weather. Hysteria's appearance came to no one's surprise; after all, it was a mid-term election year, and the media rarely gives reform supporters a fair shake. In other words, it is always hurricane season. But the fierceness of Hysteria was the shocker. Who would have thought that crack and cocaine, the killers of 700 people last year, (tobacco—350,000 dead), would have been proclaimed by every publication as the number one security threat facing the nation? And let us not forget the opportunistic politicians trampling of the very constitutional rights that our forefathers fought for.

Needless to say, it was a busy time for NORML and its activists. Everyone was on the anti-drug gravy train, and they were all out to expand their powers, increase their funding, and spread their lies while they could. The anti-marijuana forces in the White House and in the National Institute of Drug Abuse quickly began to increase their exaggerations to an eagerly awaiting and amazingly gullible media.

Here's one example of the embellished stories by the government. In late September United Press International published a story

that claimed that excessive marijuana smoking could cause brain damage similar to that of aging. One government official described it as "a ticking time bomb." When a reporter contacted NIDA about the story, he was told that these new findings should have a grave impact on the voters of Oregon who were considering a proposal on November's ballot to legalize possession and cultivation of cannabis, the Oregon Marijuana Initiative.

What reporters weren't told was that one group of rats was given the human equivalent of 136 joints a day for 30 to 40 years, the other the equivalent of 54 joints a day for 30-40 years. The 136 "j's" a day group suffered the ill effects, the 54 a day group showed no problems.

Typical. NORML wrote the papers that ran the story and sent out a press advisory to the media warning about this and other examples of government exaggerations about marijuana. We know that we did have some impact on the media, but the truly important point is that an organization was out there to point out the falsity of this story.

The press frenzy, which began to deteriorate somewhat in October, came in a distant second to what we witnessed in Congress. My personal favorite of all the ridiculous amendments in the House's bill was one that allows any customs agent, at any time, to demand that any American citizen assist them in

a drug arrest, and if that citizen refused, he was subjected to a possible \$1,000 fine.

The House Bill allowed illegally seized evidence to be used in all federal cases, not just drug cases. (Anybody remember John Adams and the writs of assistance that allowed British troops to enter any dwelling?) Over the opposition of Secretary of Defense Casper Weinberger, they called for the military to seal off the borders within thirty days of enactment of the bill. And let us not forget the President's call for more than one million federal workers to submit themselves to a urine test without any prior individual basis for suspicion.

In the end, only sixteen Representatives had the courage to just say no to such inherently unsound legislation. They include Rep. William Clay (Mo), Rep. John Conyers (MI), Rep. Barney Frank (MA), Rep. Ron Dellums (CA), Rep. Don Edwards (CA), Rep. Henry Gonzalez (TX), Rep. Michael Lowry (WA),

Rep. Parcen Mitchell (MD), Rep. Edward Roybal (CA), Rep. Martin Olavsbø (MN), Rep. Gus Savage (IL), Rep. Louis Stokes (OH), Rep. James Weaver (OR), Rep. Ted Weiss (NY), and one Republican, Rep. Philip Crane (IL). If your Congressman is not on this list, why don't you let him know your displeasure with his vote.

Meanwhile, on the other side of the Capitol, Senate Majority Leader Bob Dole introduced a bill which would have allowed the arbitrary cut-off of drug, alcohol, and mental health block grants to any state that had decriminalized. This was a deliberate, but clumsy attempt to force states to recriminalize.

The moment we heard about this amendment NORML sent out word to the activists in the decrim states. They contacted their friends and local drug treatment centers and urged them to contact their Senators and Governors. NORML sent out a press release and also called Senators' offices to make them aware of the amendment.

All these people had one question for their elected representative: "Are you in favor of cutting off our state's drug, alcohol, and mental health grants? Neither am I! I suggest that you do something about it."

It takes about ten phone calls from constituents about a specific bill before a Representative's aide really takes notice. Only ten. Not too many of the Senators were in favor of this proposal, and they let Sen. Dole know it. The amendment was dropped the next day.

As I am writing, the storm is slowly subsiding. A fair amount of the media is beginning to admit that they exaggerated the drug crisis. And there are even voices of wisdom coming from certain politicians, especially Pat Schroeder (D-CO) and Gary Ackerman (D-NY). Perhaps the bravest was Sen. Evans (R-WA), who was absolutely correct when he said that the Senate Bill "belonged in Orwell's 1984, not America in 1986."

America's civil liberties took a beating this hurricane season. Perhaps it's greatest victim was O.M.I. They'll be back next election. But we were able to in some ways deflect some of Hysteria, and thus alter the course of the debate. **NORML** activists and members were able to make a difference to the temporary situation.

If you think that the work of **NORML** as described above is important, please help us to help you. Join **NORML** or make a contribution today. If you want to alter history, be-

come an activist for justice in America. Contact **NORML** today Hysteria was a rough storm, but remember, it is always hurricane season during prohibition.

Here is a listing of some of the **NORML** college chapters around the country

U Con. NORML
Univ. of Connecticut N. Campus
Middlesex 403
Storrs, CT 06268
Attn: C. McGrattan

V.P.I. & S.U. NORML
Attn: Susan Anderson
Math Dept.
VPI & SU
Blacksburg, VA 24061

Southwestern U.S.L. NORML
Attn: Richard Dafford
USL #43984
Lafayette, LA 70504-3984

Columbia U. NORML
Attn: James Slaughter
423 W. 118th St. #4G
New York, NY 10027

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continued from page 24

NIDA jefe Robert DuPont (see below), and there's a very pleasant and intelligent young receptionist who covers for his cowardice quite nicely and professionally. After just 22 perfectly civil, painless phone calls over six weeks, we gave up on trying to nag a pisswatching quote out of Peter B.

Whereupon immediately Sam Donaldson of ABC—who is *not* associated in *any* way with HIGH TIMES—asked Peter B. for us! It was on "Meet The Press," the morning of the Sunday evening last fall when Ron and Nancy made their ludicrous "joint drug address" to a nation already bored to desperation with the media's endless drug-panic pandering. Bensinger opened on "Meet The Press" with a steely-cold pledge to go after the users of drugs from now on (there were rumors that weekend that he might replace the Mississippi chemist in Reagan's Dope Czar slot). Then he invited questions from the press panel.

Whereat Sam Donaldson immediately asked him point-blank—and HIGH TIMES did not, repeat *not*, script this—if he believed that close, intimate, on-site observation of urine donors was absolutely mandatory.

Peter B. blinked back like

he'd taken a shot across the chops, right there on national telly. Who had been asking him *that* question the last six weeks? "Um," he said. "Well. No. The temperature of the sample might be taken. Or a door could be left open..." Yeah, that's really sticking it to us users, all right.

Robert DuPont

Robert DuPont did terrific things for NORML back in the mid-1970s. He was running NIDA then, and Jimmy Carter was running for President with a pledge to decriminalize marijuana in his platform, and so Dr. DuPont was all over the telly and NORML banquets about the foolishness of the pot laws and the harmlessness of the stuff next to *bad* drugs like alcohol and tobacco. Dr. DuPont is therefore no longer in the public trough.

Now he's in partnership with Peter Bensinger to bully big corporations into setting up urinalysis programs. When the former head of the DEA and the former head of NIDA hit up a hapless industrialist to enlist in the "War on Drugs" by paying them major megabucks to set up a piss-test program for him, this industrialist knows what'll happen if he turns them down. Like what happened to Merrill Lynch last spring, when Ed Wehnmayer of Kidder Peabody fingered them indignantly on the Congressional Record

as a company with *no* drug-testing policy.

Or at least Bensinger and DuPont say they're in association—"B&D Associates, Inc."—though it appears their signals are a trifle mixed on this piss-watching issue.

Not two weeks before Peter B. appeared on "Meet The Press," Dr. DuPont's partner in another one of his diverse enterprises, one Mary Daley, volunteered to speak on his behalf to HIGH TIMES Magazine. (In her mitigation, it appeared she assumed it was some *airline* publication calling) "What's the point of having a urinalysis program if you *don't* have some way of determining the integrity of the sample?" she for-goodness-saked quite knowledgeably.

"To minimize intrusiveness," she then went on, "some companies station a person outside the restroom door to receive the sample when the donor brings it out in a paper cup. They can check with their fingertips to determine if it's appropriately warm, at body temperature."

But then she conceded that this wouldn't do a blame thing to keep anyone from dropping salt or ammonia or powdered synthetic urine into the piss cup. "No," she agreed. "That wouldn't be of any service at all, in that case."

But if that's Dr. DuPont's view, and he and Peter B.

speak with one voice, then how did Peter B. come to be stammering about checking the stupid *temperature* of piss specs on CBS two entire weeks *later*?

It's the curse of the DEA. Anyone associated with that hideous outfit leads an enchanted life forever after, fraught with intrigue and unexplainable phenomena.

NIDA Itself

The scientist at NIDA in charge of developing their official urinalysis guidelines is Dr. Michael Walsh. But it was *not* Dr. Walsh at NIDA who happened to pick up Walsh's phone one day when we called, and who told HIGH TIMES quite flatly.

"Yes, monitoring is obviously necessary. We do recommend if someone's going to run a urinalysis program, monitoring should be part of it."

We asked if companies like Kidder Peabody of Wall Street were every *really* going to subject their Yuppies and Yuppies to the sort of point-blank, eyeball-to-genital surveillance necessary to keep intelligent people like that from committing a hundred subtle sleight-of-hand tricks.

"Yes," this NIDA person conceded: "Experienced drug users will always be able to evade the program. But occasional users ought to be deterred. Not too many people read your magazine these days, do they?" ●

REAGANOPOLIS

MATTHEW FISCH

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J HENRY FAIR



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...to print an "unauthorized" account from inside South Africa. Our correspondent, who must remain anonymous, reveals the real facts about Durban Poison, the historical racism on which the country was founded, and the prospects for change.

—THE EDITORS

SOUTH AFRIKA

UNDER COVER

Thanks again for the magazine and the paper: people here are always very interested in what the outside world has to say about us. I'm intrigued by your listing South African prices, where did you get these? Malawi weed is quite hard to come by, and is generally only available in the big cities, but there isn't really much demand for it since Durban Poison is pretty freely available, and is almost as good. It's certainly good enough, anyway. The price you quoted for the handful is definitely a backwoods one; by the time the product reaches town, it is generally packaged in "pencils" of about one ounce, and the price has risen substantially. This is not at all unreasonable, because getting the stuff to town is not easy. Police roadblocks are common, and possession of any quantity carries a mandatory jail sentence of five years. The police regularly pose as buyers or sellers; we have no anti-entrapment legislation here, and the attitude to captured runners, who are generally black, verges on hysterical.



PAINTING BY NORMAN CATHERINE



In terms of our whole situation, it is so complicated it is hard to know where to start, and I don't know how much you know about the historical background. So this seems as good a place as any: the first whites to see South Africa were the Portuguese in the 1650's. They were on their way somewhere else, and regarded the continent as a sort of curiosity; but they established colonies, Angola and Mozambique later. The first settlers here were the Dutch, also in the 1600's. Like the Portuguese, they too were on their way somewhere else, the Far East in this case. A provisioning settlement was established at what is today Cape Town by the Dutch East India Company, and before long this outpost had started gaining unexpected immigrants fleeing persecution in Europe, or those who came to make a fast buck and take advantage of the abundant land and good soil. They also discovered "this wondrous plant dacha" (*dagga*, or pot as you know it), and started exporting it to the Far East and back to Europe. These European immigrants, mostly Dutch, but with a large percentage of others like French Huguenots, eventually blended together to form the Afrikaaner nation.

It wasn't long before England, which was at war with most of

Europe at some time or another, decided to take over in South Africa, and did. This all happened over several hundred years, and was obviously much more involved than I am making out, but I'm just trying to provide a very rough sketch. Anyway, the Boers (i.e. the farmers) had been doing quite a bit of hunting and exploring in the deep hinterland, and when the British took over at Cape Town and started issuing silly laws like banning slavery and letting all sorts of people vote and things, the Boers got annoyed, and upped and left in a huge group, called the Great Trek. This is where the word trek comes from; it's Afrikaans meaning "pull," as in wagon. The early explorers had mentioned that the hinterland was a high and fertile plateau, and more importantly, that it was deserted.

What they didn't realize was that this was due to Difaquane, and that people actually lived there. Difaquane was the result of one man, Shaka Zulu, who had taken his peaceful little tribe and created one of the most potent armies in the world at that time. By altering the entire social structure of the Zulu nation he had created a society that needed war to survive. Their prey was all the other tribes in Southern Africa. When the Boers arrived they found a deserted country,

because the Zulus lived on the far side of the Drakensburg Mounts, and the tribes that had previously lived on the highveld were hiding from the Zulus.

The Boers had to endure many attacks from the Zulus; some they lost, some, like the Battle of Blood River, they won. Blood River is possibly the most important date on the Afrikaaner calendar. A small party of a few hundred Boers were attacked by several thousand Zulus. The Boers retreated into a protective ring of their wagons, called a *laager*. Being an intensely religious people they did a lot of praying, and made a deal with God: If they won, they would celebrate the day forever as a religious holiday. Somehow or other they won, and ever since have been convinced that God had given them a mandate to run the country as they saw fit. The *laager* is still a very important feature in South Africa. The Boers have always been persecuted, and they have always had their little ring of wagons to retreat into. When we talk today of the "*laager mentality*" it is no joke. Being attacked just strengthens the Boer sense of identity and destiny. The natural ingrained response learned over three hundred years ago in a hostile environment is to slam the door. The tragedy is that the whole country is their *laager*.

The English have always been, as Napoleon said, a nation of shopkeepers. The Boers have never trusted them, admittedly not without some justification; the English have not always played fair. The rivalry between the two caused two Boer wars, and it continues today. The great influx of English immigrants took place as late as 1820, and Boers still regard them as trespassers. During the Boer wars the British also followed a scorched earth policy, forcing Boers off their farms, burning the buildings and crops, and interning all available Boers in concentration camps where thousands died horribly. This happened just before World War I, and has not yet been forgiven. The Boers had always been happy to farm, and the discovery of gold and diamonds and other valuable minerals created a strong economy, which the English by and large ran. Up until 1948 the government of South Africa was in English hands, by which I mean English speaking South Africans, but the Boers had supported the Germans during World War II and resented being on the Allied side. In the first election after the war the National Party (mostly Afrikaans) won. They have been in power ever since. They immediately restructured the voting districts, splitting up the English vote and consolidating the Afrikaans one, making it almost impossible for the United Party (mostly English) to win again. We still have elections regularly, but blacks can't vote, and the Boers haven't lost yet.

Apart from anything else, the Afrikaaners outnumber the English. This is not to say that all Afrikaaners are racist, or that all English are liberal; there are people of all shades of opinion in both camps, but in general, that is the trend. The history of the Afrikaaner is not designed to foster a liberal outlook. It is for this reason that a distinction is drawn between Boers and others in the present struggle. The distinction is



not drawn on racial grounds either. There are, paradoxically, black Boers, those who support the government by being informers or political stooges, and there are many of these. The Boers have always fought with the blacks, particularly once the Zulus were defeated, and the original inhabitants returned to their traditional lands, only to find white farmers on them. We must admit the Boers then had a case for keeping the land, and the fighting never stopped.

For years the Afrikaaner used a religious justification for squashing the blacks; it has to do with one of Noah's sons who disobeyed his father and the fate of his descendants was to forever serve the descendants of his brothers. In a great burst of liberalism which should not be underestimated, the Afrikaans churches recently declared apartheid a heresy (one still holds out, but it is a very minor church). But it appears that apartheid has become too ingrained to be removed easily. The government says it is moving away from it, and all the Afrikaaners believe them, but no one else does. I suspect that they have a totally different perspective; they just see things differently than everyone else.

White South Africans quite simply have no idea of the conditions under which black South Africans live. This is no accident. The system of schooling applicable to any white child is called Christian

National Education, and it is designed with the simple and single-minded purpose of producing little robots who will believe everything the government tells them. This is no exaggeration: I am a qualified teacher, I know. Only very recently has the government allowed private radio stations, and there are only two of them. They have to be ultra careful of what they say, because their licenses could be revoked with no notice. Television was only introduced in the last ten years, because it was feared that it might introduce foreign ideas. As it is now, it is government controlled, and shows only their side of the story. Townships (black areas) are situated well away from white areas, and white people are continually discouraged from entering them by stories, "news" reports, and by being required to apply for a permit from the government just to enter the area. In the event of unrest in a township, whites are simple forbidden entrance. There are a couple of fairly liberal newspapers, but there is so much pressure on them, and they compete with mental blocks set up by conditioning from the moment of birth, that they are not widely read. In addition, their journalists are deliberately harrassed and prevented from getting at stories.

Add to this the banning laws, which can make it an offense to quote a banned person or organization, and you will see how little whites here actually know. I

Warden. A typical country town in the Orange Free State. Note how the church dominates physically as well as spiritually (Dutch Reformed denomination). This is the white part of town.



am convinced that if they knew what was happening, there would be more protest, but it is generally only at universities that any de-brainwashing can take place. Even then it is a dangerous business. I have heard that one student in every thirty is a paid police informant. I don't know if you saw anything on television about a protest by students at Wits (University of the Witwatersrand). It started off as a peaceful protest. Then police attacked seated students with dogs, whips, and batons, arresting 48 and injuring 50. The television news said "Students attack Police!"

In spite of these obstacles, protest is growing in white areas as more and more people find out what is happening. The presence of troops in the townships has become a symbol to many South Africans. It is not possible to just attack these troops, either. Most of them are conscripted, believing that after their 12 years of Christian National Education, they are doing the right thing. Troops have been called onto campuses too, and instructed to baton-charge people who might be friends, brothers, or sisters. Some have refused, as some have refused to go into the townships. Those who refuse face jail. Those who refuse to be conscripted get 8 years in jail, a long time to ask of any 18 year old. Again there is hope; more and more are failing to report for duty. The government refused to release the figures this year, which we take as a sign that they are unacceptably high.

You ask what those fighting here think of people like you. I personally am aware of a huge feeling of frustration every time I face a police charge. I think, How can they be allowed to do this? Can't anyone stop them? The trouble is that I don't think anyone outside can. All this talk of sanctions is well and good, and banning computer sales is a curious idea (I'm typing this on an IBM), but the Boers are used to being attacked, and they will just retreat into the *laager* again. The economy will suffer; certainly, it is already suffering. But who is it that is going to suffer first? The poor blacks, not the rich whites. The factory owners will simply drop production. Retrenchments are increasing daily. Who is going to feed these people? It's winter here now, the temperature drops below freezing at night. Where are the people going to stay? It's great to talk glibly about sacrifices in the short term for benefits in the long run, but the people who talk like that are not dying of starvation outside in the cold. If sanctions could work, totally, then perhaps I would feel differently, but they are never complete. Japan, for one, could not afford not to trade with South Africa, and they are not the only ones. People are naturally greedy, and there will always be those who want to feather their nests. Enough trade will continue to keep the fat cats fat, but not enough to keep their workers alive.

I'm not a communist, I strongly believe in free trade, and I think the state, whatever it is, is not able to create as many jobs as capitalism. It's not necessarily even the fat cats' fault. Some of them got to great lengths to perform public services, but when the crunch comes they will be the last to suffer, and even when they suffer, they are not the government. The Boer attitude will just harden, they will tighten their belts, and prepare for seven years of famine. Even if the whole economy collapsed and the Boers went back to their farms there is no guarantee that they would relent.

So what do we do? A good question. We protest peacefully, so that we can win more support in white areas, because the whites are still able to vote, and we still have an enlightened opposition party. We fight undercover, and we gradually take more and more of the country out of the hands of the Boers. This is a gross oversimplification, and international pressure certainly has a role, but the whole thing is just so involved. To actually sit down and write this out as I have just done has made me realize just how little I know, and I reckon I know as much as anyone here. They say that even President Botha doesn't know the whole story, and is continually misinformed by his own military. Who can say, though sometimes he certainly acts as though he has no idea of what's going on.

And this is the black part, the 'location' Houses comparable to any black area like Soweto, so is the layout, but Soweto is about 1000 times bigger (no kidding) Note: There is no electricity nor telephones (These have recently been introduced to Soweto.)



(In early fall, we received this South African update from our correspondent, reflecting the deteriorating situation—The Editors)

I would write to tell you of the progress of the war, but to tell the truth, no one here is really terribly sure how things are progressing, what with the emergency and all. You people over there are probably better informed than us. Under the emergency regulations it is illegal to publish any details of unrest which are not issued by the official Bureau of Information. As you can no doubt imagine, the details issued by this august body fail to correspond terribly well with the news one hears on the street. What they really have is total control of the news; they are not even trying to be subtle about the whole thing any more. We went through a brief phase when one or two of the more liberal papers took to printing large blank spaces under vague headings such as "Something happened in Soweto Yesterday", but they were hit in terms of a section of the emergency regulations which enabled the minister to declare almost anything "subversive." Yes, blank spaces were declared subversive.

One source of eternal amazement and hope in this sorry country is the autonomy which the courts somehow manage to maintain. An action brought by one of the trade union organizations actually had this piece of "anti-subversive"

stupidity thrown out. The Supreme Court Judge (judges here are not elected, they work their way up, and never reach the Supreme Court without about 30 years experience) more or less said that the relevant section was vague and meaningless, and as far as he was concerned, it was pretty stupid. More actions brought in court resulted in lawyers being allowed to see many of the detainees (under the regulations, no one, not even a Supreme Court Judge, was allowed access) and one newspaper, *The Star*, published as many names as possible—over 3000—something which was also previously forbidden, although the PFP, the Official Opposition in Parliament, had been using the inviolate privilege of parliamentary question time to name as many people as possible. This meant the names could be published, but there are so many detainees, and it all had to be kept within the bounds of parliamentary protocol or the speaker could be asked to leave the chamber, and until *The Star's* revelations only a few hundred names had been uncovered. People who are arrested under the emergency regulations are not officially arrested, you see.

It's all very strange and sinister, and a little bit stupid. As an example, two friends of mine disappeared from their houses in the middle of the night. Officially, no one knows where they are, though we know they are in detention. The really stupid part is that they were both supposed to

appear in court on charges of illegal gatherings or some such, resulting from a demonstration we were involved in. Since they were in detention, they failed to appear in court, and a warrant has been issued for their arrests.

A very interesting development on the legal front has just recently taken place in Natal (a province), where the full bench of the Supreme Court found that the State President (P. W. Botha) had acted outside his powers in declaring some of the regulations of the emergency, and ordered detainees released. The State has appealed against this ruling. Unfortunately, most of this is really pretty pointless, because the state just modifies the laws to get around the courts. Only if the people who are released immediately go underground do they really stand much chance before the blue team is out after them again, and some of them are people of high principle who refuse to hide like criminals. Some of us feel we can do more if we are out of jail than in, but it means abandoning jobs and sources of livelihood and living off friends, or even people one has never seen before, obviously placing them in great danger too. The state forces are pretty awesome, and to be honest we are not doing too well. At present, keeping a low profile so that one is still in a position to offer practical support to fugitives now, and in the push, when it comes, is all that we can do. Time, fortunately, is on our side.

HIGH TIMES PROUDLY PRESENTS THE DEBUT OF

DC

CANNABIS CONNOISSEUR

WHEN I first met "R." I was in the middle of a long, hard, and somewhat fruitless search for a new, more sophisticated, and more sophisticated way to smoke marijuana. I had tried everything from rolling my own to using a pipe, and I was still not satisfied.

I never met "R." I was in the middle of a long, hard, and somewhat fruitless search for a new, more sophisticated, and more sophisticated way to smoke marijuana. I had tried everything from rolling my own to using a pipe, and I was still not satisfied.

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is that are revolutionizing the way we smoke marijuana. Someone needs to straighten out the confusion.

I never met "R." I was in the middle of a long, hard, and somewhat fruitless search for a new, more sophisticated, and more sophisticated way to smoke marijuana. I had tried everything from rolling my own to using a pipe, and I was still not satisfied.

ALOHA!!!

HAWAII'S HEAVENLY HARVEST

It's been very hard to find Hawaiian these days, and prices have been understandably high. So far this year, I've tried three varieties from the Aloha State, but this one was by far the best. It was grown by DENNIS on the Big Island.

Everyone wants Hawaiian. Even my friends in Holland, who can legally grow any variety (and have the best of the Americans to pick from), beg for a morsel of Hawaiian. Why is it so popular?

When Vietnam Vets returned to the States via Hawaii, they carried with them Asian seeds of great quality. These seeds were crossbred with other high-quality foreign seeds, such as those arriving from Mexico and Colombia. The result? SUPER SATIVA HYBRIDS. The reputation of Hawaiian pot still rests with those remarkable initial harvests.

But things have changed. This year, Operation Green Harvest uprooted hundreds of thousands of plants, while an active volcano spewed lava in the form of needles that collected like spider's webs on a few plants. Although there wasn't an exceptional rainfall, many growers reported mold problems. However, some Hawaiian growers had a respectful harvest.

How does one purchase weed like this? You don't—not unless you personally know a grower in Hawaii, or have friends who know one. My Hawaiian friend says this is some of the best I'll see from him this year. I believe it.

The buds were moist, fresh and pungent, with a thick, fruity smell: pure sativa and unlike anything grown domestically. One whiff and I knew it was the real thing.

High quality Hawaiian shouldn't require more than two or three hits for a proper high. The first few hits of this product were delicious, with a rich, sweet-tasting smoke. At first, I was somewhat disappointed. As delicious as it was, I didn't feel properly stoned. But I was used to smoking *indicas* (some of which produce a physical, almost narcotic high) and *indica-sativa* hybrids (some of which are quite nice). There is nothing like that clear, cerebral, *sativa* head. It's my favorite. Two hits would have been sufficient. As it was, I barely finished the joint.

What can we expect from Hawaii in the future? Unfortunately, as we all well know, commercial exploitation degrades quality. Growers shift into high production, and eventually, the seed strain weakens and slowly loses its potency. We've already seen it happen in Colombia with seeds. Now it's happening in Hawaii with cuttings. Fortunately, however, something is already being done about this awful development. The best seeds from America and from the seed banks in Holland are being bred into Hawaiian crops to rejuvenate the strain. I'll deal with the results of these experiments in a future issue. Next month, I'll be dealing with the best domestic strains. Stay tuned.

Wish You Were Here!

D.E.





Photography by Seth Roth



ACID TEMPLE BALL

BY MARY SATIVA

ILLUSTRATION BY LISA BLACKSHEAR



Acid Temple Ball is a tour de force of psychedelic erotica. The heroine makes love under the influence of eight or so different drugs and drug combinations. The book is set in Manhattan's East Village and San Francisco's Haight-Ashbury during the middle and late 1960's.

On LSD, the heroine sees an ordinary apartment as a temple where "a pageant of the Eastern Gods is unfolding." She and her lover Jesse are Shiva and Shakti in the yab-yum position. But the illness of her junkie lover Davy terminates their high.



I walk into Davy's place and find them both there, one is dark, the other fair, already friends after a week. Today Jesse and I are going to take acid, something we haven't yet had a chance to do together. It is early morning and I needn't go home . . . till seven or eight—I'll still be high, but not uncontrollably so. Offer to Davy that he join us, but he has to go discuss a movie script and hustle dope. For every two bags of heroin he sells he gets one free. A nasty system, but he always refused to sell to me, gave me some free whenever I really needed it. Jesse and I take one of the little sky-blue pills, acid has been coming in the loveliest colored pills the last year or two. Pink, purple, orange, various shades of blue. Pressed by expensive machines for mass distribution.

I bustle around fixing some breakfast for Davy, who never eats enough; he's getting the really pale emaciated look of junkies. Nothing for me and Jesse, the drug will hit harder and quicker, with less chance of nausea, if our stomachs are empty. I dig tripping after a three or four-day fast. We get off quickly, after only twenty or thirty minutes, the dishes I'm washing become fragile and transparent, I turn off the water and flop down on Jesse's Salvation Army mattress.

Davy pats me on the head, shakes Jesse's hand, and goes out

"Don't set the place on fire or anything, you two. I probably won't be back till evening." Jesse is laughing as Davy closes the door.

The pale bluish light from the windows

becomes rich with hints of color, breaking into strips and ribbons, then brighter color within the ribbons, moving and forming glowing patterns. Complicated medieval stories forming and unforming. I sit near the window, watching entranced. The light is calling out to me, brighter and brighter I raise my arms to it and feel myself drawn out, flowing. Brighter and brighter but not light enough.

Too blue, too grey. I go around the apartment, lighting candles, turning on lamps. The room shifts from blue to red and back to blue. Jesse's flesh is melting and merging like colored lights. I peer through the patterns at him, he smiles. The smile opens, shooting darts of light in spreading whirlpools in the room. Moves his hand before my eyes and leaves a trail of golden, dripping images, like a harpsichord arpeggio.

Time is a train hurtling between brief stops, before and after are short-circuited. I touch his cheek and lose the sensation before I can remember touching. Repeat and repeat, but feeling is in a different world than my mind now. His face is a whirlpool of inlaid images, growing more and more complex as I look into them, flowering infinitely. He holds me in his arms and laughs.

"Pretty heavy, huh?"

"Get undressed, Jesse, I want to look at you." He takes off his jeans and cowboy shirt, less awkward than I am, fumbling clumsily at ridiculous complications of zippers and stockings. I get hung up with my dress over my head, grooving on the light coming through the woven fabric, each pinpoint of light opening into kaleidoscopes of color. Jesse helps me and pulls me down to him.

"Hey, you doing all right?"

"Fine, baby. Jesse, beautiful Jesse, you're really here."

"Why don't we go out after a while and you can show me New York?"

I told Jesse once about how long it took me to get used to being on the streets in New York while I'm tripping. Now I do it all the time, I.D. in pocket and making sure I'm clean of drugs; even if I am found gibbering in a trash can, what difference does it make? And just not being paranoid about being picked up by cops

makes it much easier. Shit, if I can't trip on the streets, what am I tripping for?

Digging this special excursion into super-reality and the extension of all senses means being able to face and enjoy anything under its effect. It's gotten so I'd rather do something unpleasant while tripping than while straight: it will still be unpleasant, but at least I'll be tripping. But now I want to blow my mind a little on just being high with Jesse, beautiful silky Jesse, covered with swirling tapestry patters and a marble mosaic derived from his veins and pores. Faint pale green and pink and golden stones set together to form his cool firm flesh.

"We'll go out in a little while, Jesse, O.K.? I want to be here with you now."

My mind is rambling through vast deserted gardens, fragrant with perfumed opium, a sense of birds fluttering above us, a statue of the god set before a fountain of light. I hold a candle in my hands, feel its warmth, feel a rainbow of hot to cold as I move one hand above the candle, closer and farther away. Watch Jesse's body forming and unforming in the candlelight. I drip the hot wax on my hands and feel no pain, play at peeling it off, little impressions of my flesh, fragile, crumbling in my hands.

"Don't hurt yourself with the wax."

Perhaps I have burned my hands. There are red spots where the wax was. Of course there are blue and pink and green and yellow spots, too. Moving around. I put the candle down.

Davy's little black cat is crawling around on our naked bodies, it knows we are harmless as saints in the forest. Lovely and furry and gentle it purrs at us and rubs its head against our bodies. I stroke my breasts against its fur and kiss its head, take its ear in my mouth. The cat lies perfectly still, purring. The cat is as important to me as a brother, now; I have unlimited regard for its individuality. It is fearless and supple, not so much contact high as permitting us to enter its reality. Perhaps I am even simpler than a cat, now, perhaps I am merely a stone or a flower it has no reason to take seriously. Yet I can call it to me with a small gesture of my hands or a look of my eyes.

"Is it O.K. if I put on some music, Jesse?"

"Sure. Rock?"

"I don't know, I'll think about it." I think about it squatting naked at the pile of records, getting hung up looking at the cover of each one, figuring out what it is, what the emotional content of listening to it would be. I want to hear four or five at once. Jesse comes over and rubs his chest against my back.

"Hey, just choose one."

I pick a cover that appeals to me, an earthmotherly face, flowing white garments,

ACID → ←

WHEN I WAS A SCHOOL KID I GOT UPSET ABOUT WAR AND RACISM. I WANTED TO CHANGE THINGS.



BUT MY OWN FEELINGS AND RELATIONSHIPS WERE STILL MYSTERIOUS TO ME.



THEN I LEFT HOME AND BEGAN EXPLORING SEX AND DRUGS SERIOUSLY.

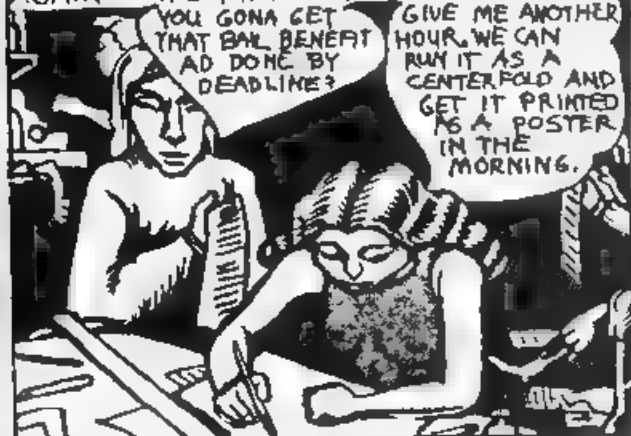


Indian music. Jesse puts it on the turntable for me.

Intricate golden notes fill up the atmosphere of the room, create their own dense, rippling space. My body, arms and hands move to the music, dripping colored afterimages, like

REVOLUTION

IT WAS BRINGING ME DOWN. SO AFTER A FEW YEARS OF DOPING MYSELF INTO SENSELESSNESS, I BEGAN TO FIGHT AGAIN - THIS TIME IN MY OWN WAY.



BUT THE WORLD OUTSIDE REMAINED THE SAME... AND I WATCHED IT CRUSH PEOPLE I LOVED.



ACID TAUGHT US THE UNIVERSE INSIDE OUR MINDS. BUT NOW THAT WE UNDERSTAND, NOW THAT WE'RE NOT AFRAID OF LITTLE THINGS LIKE POVERTY OR FAILURE OR PAIN - LETS TRY TO BUILD A PLACE WHERE WE CAN TRIP WITHOUT GETTING BUMMED OUT OR BEATEN OR DRAGGED TO JAIL.



trailing iridescent ribbons, follow every gesture Jesse's body is golden and smooth, each curve responding to some subtle ideal of form. He and the room take on the quality of the music, ceremonial and erotic, the deep mystery of images complete in themselves.

A pageant of the Eastern gods is unfolding as I dance naked towards his naked body. The wheel of creation and destruction, things of surface and illusion dying into purer being. We are the perfected Changing yet unchanging in annulled time. I dance toward him and each moment is lost, unremembered. The surface of his body is smooth and cool as metal, as stone. He sits cross-legged, motionless, radiant and removed, the child-like smile of absolute knowing, knowing beyond words, peace that is not static but flowing. He and change are embraced in rapture, he contemplates his birth and death with a golden smile.

Reverently I touch his shoulders and chest, the tight bud of his penis, touch it lightly, watching it swell and rise, filling with its own energy, coming forth huge and erect, rooted in his peaceful body. It sways with the music and the passion and energy pouring into the room. I dance to it, invoke it, stroking lightly with my hands and lips.

Lightly he takes my shoulders and I climb on to his lap, crossing my legs behind his back. The record changer is playing the last half of the record over and over, in response to our needs. But always unfamiliar and now, infinitely complex. I am wet and open, I am cool and removed, creator of worlds. His prick is huge and living in me. I feel its veins and pulsing of blood, it fills me and makes me solid and complete. I sit on his lap, his hands are on my hips, twisting slightly to the complex beats of drum and flute and sitar. We are carved from stone, we are molten gold. His hair shoots sparks of joy on my cheeks and shoulders Peaceful and whole together we dance, our movements sliding his vast hard phallus into my depths, fluttering, sucking into me, then slightly withdrawn, hard and smooth in short jolts deep in me, the swollen pounding head swaying as we rock slightly from side to side. Around us, worlds are born and fall, images dance with us, strange animals and shapes echo our desire and glow brighter with stabs of pleasure. I look into his eyes, cool glittering blue and grey and gold, my face not touching his, breathe his breath, he is a mirror reflecting some other form of me, I am his cock deep inside myself, I am our one locked body moving in its perfect, necessary dance.

I touch his glittering hair and feel my own fingertips, feel the music playing in my cunt, rock and twist and shudder flowing uncontrollably through our bodies Only the slightest movements, enough to keep desire swollen and tight, constant and intense, constant and flowing lust and satisfaction, hungry and filled, his hardness is rocking in me,

each movement a gesture carved in stone. I am the earth from which he flowers, he is the river rushing into me, every muscle and vein confirmed and created to this dance. Time is dead; we are the sacred image.



We become satisfied, our mood shifts; we want to go out, see things, do things. Something ecstatic and revealed remains ringing in my thighs and arms, a sense that we are beautiful and whole, going forth to shed light. Rescue the record, dress painfully, careful to be warm, to take care of our distant flesh. It is still bitter and windy outside, though we probably won't feel it. Laughing, delighted with ourselves for having succeeded in getting ready to go out; step outside, close and lock the door. Many difficult operations to figure out, manipulations and conventions. Walking, putting one foot in front of the other, the ball of the foot, and then the heel, shift weight, and you're off. Doing fine, the wind blowing past our heads, remembering what red lights are for, but forgetting how long they can last. Lighting a cigarette in the wind, careful not to start laughing. Faces that are friendly and faces that are forbidding, opening like hidden windows and then drifting past before we can look inside. Sometimes it is hard not to follow. A bum reaches out and we give him all our change, little as it is. Now we won't have to decide again if we have or should give money.

Colors glowing through a fine misty rain, people like delicate ink drawings, elongated, striding ridiculously. Lights and hallucinations shimmer on the damp streets. We walk and walk, not remembering we have walked, forgetting where we are, fording rivers of savage traffic, staring in windows lighted softly in the afternoon twilight. Places I have been, different times and cities flash by me, as though I walked in one place before a vast lighted screen.

We walk and walk, the mist becomes darker, I begin to feel hunger and cold. Heading back toward Davy's place, able to read signs now, eager to get warm, to sit down and eat something. We go to a little gourmet store on Second Avenue, it is warm and light inside, full of friendly knowing people with beards and long hair, buying candy and ice cream and pistachio nuts and soda pop. Heads. And scornful speed freaks getting orange juice for their colds. And middle-aged ladies getting lox and chopped liver and painstakingly ignoring wallets, make a quick calculation that the

money I have left over from my last modeling job would buy enough food even here, to keep us busy for days. So why don't we just be imaginative and get whatever comes to mind. We can feed some of it to Davy. Dozens of little packages, bright labels, individually wrapped in paper. We clutch our bundles and hurry to Davy's place. Past the candy store on the corner, the hippie customers. We look at all the cans and tins and jars, bottles of nuts and dried fruit, rows of cheese wrapped in wax foil. And laugh at each other in joy and amazement. Look in our crowds of people standing in the dusk and drizzle, grooving on each other and asking passers-by for change. Some cats smile and nobody bothers us, people hand us leaflets advertising rock concerts and be-ins, I hold one upside down as I walk and watch the street lights through it.

Arrive at Davy's, open the door. He's lying on the cot, looking really grey and strung-out.

"You guys are back, huh? Having a good time?"

Perhaps it's partly the acid, sometimes it does that, but he looks really bad. Maybe we just haven't been noticing how low he's getting.

"Wow, yeh, Davy, it's been really nice. We brought back some crazy food, maybe you'll have some with us."

"Maybe in a little while, O.K.? I'm just going to lie here for a while."

Jesse and I feel subdued and a bit depressed, decide to eat later. I make some hot tea with lemon to warm us. Sit by the window, drinking my sweet tea. Content now to sit alone, looking out into the twilight blue-grey walls and shreds of laundry hanging. Watch rain dripping crystal down the window, laundry and garbage blowing in the harsh gusts of wind, the low keening city wind trapped between buildings. It has been a beautiful trip, but now is the long slow coming back, and an acute sense of isolation and helpless pity. Nothing to give, nothing to share, and Davy is lying on his cot, exhausted and probably getting sick; the buildings sink into dirt and darkness. I am closed around the picture I see; I enclose my own picture, as well, bent over and folded like a flower, contemplating loneliness. Many-petaled like a flower, containing infinite worlds within words, and each a picture of myself, bent in isolation, watching the wet laundry swaying in the wind and rain.

I shake my head, dizzy with descending images, drink some more hot tea, and turn from the window.



HOME OF THE GODS

BY BOHUMIL 'BOB' KRČIL



It was a hot, steamy day in a dusty garage-turned-hole in Pakistan, and the men were holding up a sack of a secret crop in the northern mountains. The tobacco grows wild and high, yielding powerful high-potency cigarettes. The men smoke and eat casually on their veranda, watching

...and I was not alone. In the 1970s, I kept hearing tall tales about the "hachish" (hashish) that had been used by the Japanese in the 1930s. I kept hearing tall tales about the "hachish" (hashish) that had been used by the Japanese in the 1930s. I kept hearing tall tales about the "hachish" (hashish) that had been used by the Japanese in the 1930s.

[illegible][illegible]

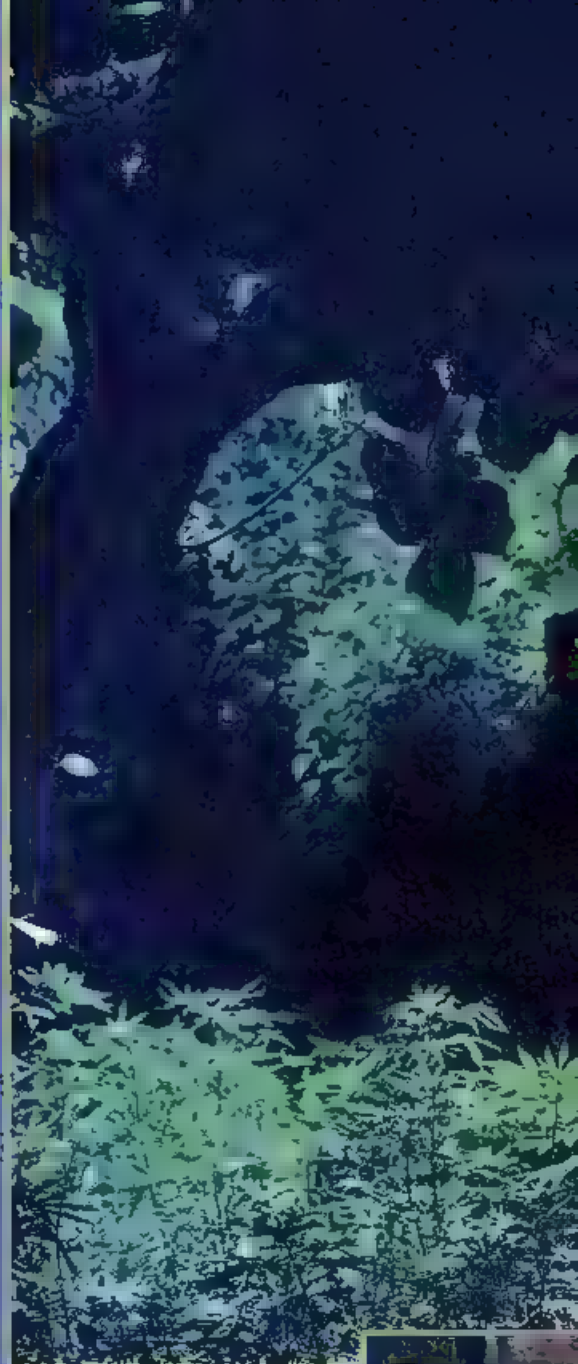
While climbing the great Himalayan mountains without maps or proper equipment, I was, for all that, not as naive as my starting poster for photo work. I was also well aware that the possession of this work is unlawful in many countries of the world, and that there are widespread public stereotypes. But elsewhere I had no preconceptions. My intention was to make a movie not condemn the use of cannabis. I only wanted to record on film my own experiences and the legends from the long forgotten past.

[illegible]

"Interpreting the Congressional bill, the Department of Justice said that the
 "domestic and foreign law enforcement should have the right to intercept records
 of electronic communications. These intercepts are necessary to protect the
 national security and the INFORMATION CANNARY."

© BOB KRČIL 1986

I ran into many mystics and sages on the trip, but this 67 year old Shiva yogi was certainly one of the most flexible. I gave him some hash which he rolled into a long and casually smoked with his foot.



Public gardens like the one above were plentiful. Although the *cannabis sativa* shown here has grown wild and unattended for centuries, the quality is very high. Left: A Sikh merchant dries his beard. Far right: Shiva follower lights a hash-filled chillum pipe.







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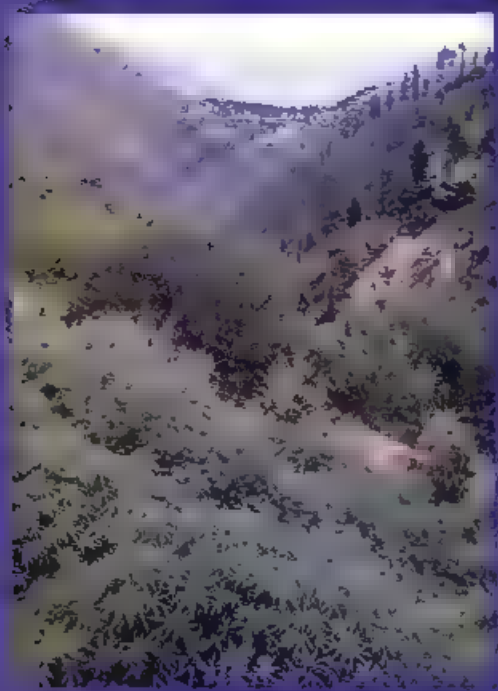
Above: P. Sarramya, his long dreadlocks rolled up, demonstrates a
millstone technique. Below: Stone wall, mill stones and young banana
plants at high noon.





Thirteen tollahs of dark
CHARAS hash from the
Home of the Gods. Each
tollah weighs around 12
grams and sells for 20 to 30
rupees. (\$2 to \$3).





1



3



4



5



2a

7



8





2b

HOME OF THE GODS

1) Patches of uncultivated cannabis in one of the valleys in the Home of the Gods

2a) 2b) A Charasee (maker of CHARAS) extracts resin from a plant by gently rubbing it between his palms

3) Just before he starts collecting, the Charasee's hands are clean

4) The same pair of hands after 1 1/2 minutes of rubbing

5) After 1/2 hour of rubbing, the hands are covered with a dark layer of potent THC-laden resin

6) It takes another 1/2 hour to rub the resin (or CHARAS) off the palms. Small crumbles of hashish fall onto a cloth

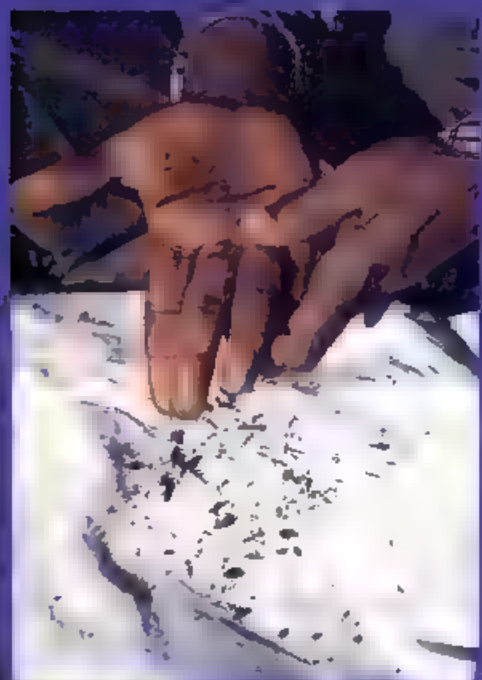
7) Once the Charasee's palms are cleaned again, the crumbles of hashish are lumped together into a single chunk

8) By pressing the hash with the thumb and palm, the crumbles are rolled into a long, thin strip

9) The strip is bent in the center and twisted

10) The result: A private stash (4-5 grams) for the day's enjoyment. In a day or two, when the rubbery plants have recovered, the Charasee will return and milk the same plants. I told the locals that plants were harvested in the West for resin. They found the idea ridiculous and highly impractical—like killing a valuable cow to get oneudder's worth of milk.

Bottom: "Doc" Krack, the Great Dane, New York-based photographer and writer.



6



9



10



THE
WIND
MILL

THE WIND MILL HERBERT

SKETCHES OF HUMBOLDT COUNTY

The redwoods of Humboldt County, in northern California—numerous, hard to reach—are the favorite lure tourists away from the highway—are the natural habitat of people who want to be left alone. The fog rolls in from the seacoast, the sun beats like a hammer on the inland hills, and the spirit of anarchy lingers in the air like a trace of perfume. People





who grew up in these isolated valleys hunger for the outside world. They buy satellite dish antennas to bring a hundred TV stations and up-to-the-second global news into their living rooms; but the immigrants, refugees from the urban and political ills of the nation of a decade or more ago, are glad for the quiet. The immigrants are backward-looking. Their adult personalities were formed when hair was long, when the nation was bogged down in a distant war, and when having a consciousness implied a responsibility to raise it, and that meant getting high. For some of these people—social fossils, they seem to outsiders—marijuana has

always been more sacrament than commodity. They were growing for themselves long before they discovered it as a means of buying their land, or paying for repairs on their ancient pickup trucks.

In one of these remote valleys, where the morning fog spills over the ridge like a waterfall in slow motion, evaporating into clear air before it hits the ground, a young patriarch named Damian is nailing boards for an addition to his house. It is a sort of meditation tower, with windows the right height for a person sitting in the lotus position. Damian hammers away, barefooted, pigtailed, bearded,

building toward his state of grace. Damian used to have a regular name and so did most of the people who live on his land, his wife Moonbeam, Alex Calyx in the wigwam, Grizzly and Flo in the wickiup below, and the others; but they have put their pasts behind them because finding one's new identity is part of finding one's correct place in the universe which, Damian says, "is pretty much the trip." Except for growing marijuana on timber company lands, which would irritate the timber company officials if they knew about it, it is a trip that is hard to condemn. They are peaceful people. They own no weapons. They are religious, in a disorganized sense.

They are tree planters, goat milkers, vegetarians, baby makers—suckling, crawling, crying, dirty, but apparently healthy babies are *everywhere*—dreamers, builders of weird but imaginative houses, people who improve the land.

The land, eighty acres of it, belongs to Damian, or will when he finishes making the payments. The deal is that the other households on the land contribute a portion of their pot crop to him. These other people live in cabins, tepees, and other shelters expressing their idiosyncratic tastes: One attractive building that defies categorization ("adobe greenhouse"?) was put up for only \$300. The people in these households owe Damian money, but they are all pretty relaxed about it. When Grizzly comes to repay a loan, in his bib overalls and boots, Damian puts down his tools, scratches his head, and abashedly admits that he forgets how much he is owed.

For a while, between spiritual breaks, Damian hammers and saws, trying to bring order to the piles of lumber and materials that have lain around so long, he says, that they're driving his wife crazy. The meditation tower is square, with its sides facing the cardinal directions, the better to ensure spiritual alignment. Elsewhere there is hardly a right angle in sight. The outdoor bathtub has a fire pit underneath for heating the water. The inside of the house is a collection of second-hand windows set at different heights, a cast-iron wood stove for cooking and heating, a floor of smooth flat river stones, a tabletop cut from a redwood burl, posters from rock concerts in the Haight-Ashbury district years before, and a few dim twelve-volt light fixtures hooked via dangling wires to a lone solar photovoltaic panel outside. A doorway leads to the bedroom. The bedroom is a wickiup, with walls and ceilings made from

bent saplings tied together at the top and covered with quilts and tarps. From the poles supporting one side of the wickiup, untrimmed branches of *sativa* sinsemilla hang upside down to cure. It is an especially spiritual herb, Damian mentions as he comes in.

Damian is taking another break from work. He is going to do some meditative exercises in the wickiup, whose round shape, he says, gives his spiritual energy. He sits on the floor with his legs folded under him and begins inhaling through one nostril exhaling through the other, in and out. He is The Man Who Would Be Sage. He learned some of his exercises from his wife, who learned them from an Indian maharishi whose spiritual credentials include not having spoken to anyone for twenty years. Damian learned the rest of his exercises from people visiting his land.

I am visiting his land as a hired gun for a big East Coast magazine, and I am torn between the hectic pace of driving around in a rented car, quarreling with my photographer, and rushing off to appointments with cops, on the one hand, and downshifting to get into Damian, on the other. Damian is still in the lotus position with his eyes closed. My photographer is taking pictures from a few feet away, with the sinsemilla in the background, a real magazine shot, the editors will love it. The photographer motions to me to keep on talking to keep Damian distracted. I ask Damian to tell me the purpose of his land. As I ask, what goes through my mind is that the settlers seem to have alighted there randomly, and that they live on it with remarkably few rules.

He keeps his eyes closed, concentrating, and says solemnly, "It's a manifestation of God's will."

Damian is high, either from his herb or from his exercises. I have come a long way



to get this story, and I am busily scribbling away in my notebook, but at the same time I feel that the photographer and I are ripping him off. Damian is too naïve, too pure to be talking to journalistic hoodlums roving Humboldt County in search of the Typical Marijuana Grower.

He inhales through one nostril, exhales through the other. The wickiup is silent, except for his breathing and the loud clicking of the camera shutter.

A little later Damian adds, "It's a beautiful place to live and grow."

It strikes me as I sit cross-legged on the floor that Damian's words don't measure up to his thoughts, or his intentions. He is anti-money. He grows just enough pot to get by. He believes that his role is to help others make transitions to another way of living, of their own choosing. The herb helps them keep on the spiritually correct path; the income from selling it provides the financial liberty to do the thinking and the searching that are, as he would say, the trip. But those are not his words—he is silent. His eyes are shut and he is concentrating, with his legs folded under him, breathing in, breathing out.

My photographer points to his watch and signals that it is time to go. When we get in the car he tells me we are late for another interview with the cops. And I put the key in the ignition and sigh.



GREGORY HERBERT

Far from the valley where Damian lives, a long drive inland, across the county line, on another steep hill studded with stumps left over from the loggers' attack on the land, is the house of Chuck Bisbee. Bisbee came to his present location via Vietnam and Humboldt, two places that shaped his life about equally. He was a grunt in Vietnam. Fighting in a war he did not believe in, and then returning to an America that was far more polarized than it is today, set him against re-enlisting as a civilian in society with a job and a mortgage. He grew his hair and hitchhiked into Humboldt County, where he learned, he said, "to grow outrageous dope." He lived outside the world of taxes and telephone lines and the nightly news; he got his news from a word-of-mouth network. After about ten years, he bought a parcel of land nearby in Trinity County, which, like Humboldt

and the other northern California counties, is big enough to fit a couple of East Coast states like Rhode Island inside it with room to spare. He moved onto his new land, but it was the wrong move to make: the Trinity sheriff and his men, more vigilant than their Humboldt brethren, raided his pot patch and took him away in handcuffs.

Like Damian, Bisbee is a remnant of a vanishing counter-culture. He believes that marijuana has an entirely different function—he would say a religious one—than booze and other drugs. It is a belief that colors his way of thinking so much that people not sharing his ideas find him ridiculous, a cartoon of the bumptious, fed-up, marijuana-grower archetype. When the cops came, he remembers, they told him he was under arrest. "I said, 'What for?' They said, 'For cultivation of marijuana.' I said, 'Bullshit! I'm a caretaker of the sacred flower!'" Though he beat the court rap on a technicality, he lost his garden, and he remembers his raided plants with sad nostalgia. In his house hangs a framed photograph, which he shows to visitors, of some lower branches the deputies missed, the pinnate leaves a foot across, their size a testimony to his horticultural expertise.

Bisbee lives in a house that he and his wife—silver rings on her toes, a turquoise stud through one of her nostrils—helped build themselves. They generate their own electricity, grow their own vegetables, feed a menagerie of dogs, cats, peacocks. Bisbee says he is putting most of his energy into a novel about dope growing; he has already finished 1,500 pages. In this verse passage he combines the themes of Vietnam and dope, and it does much to explain the trauma from which he is trying to recover.

Caught inside a bluewhite haze

*There's no way out I'm sure.
People acting strange these days
Lookin' for the cure.*

*I'm just watchin' the changes.
Got a view of the view.*

*They say it'll kill you
But they don't say when.
They say the war's over
But sometimes I'm back there again
Exploding inside.*

*A thousand reasons later
There's no need to ask why
So I'm going to stay high.*

Humboldt County has gotten more attention from outsiders—journalists, state cops, the feds, all kinds of undesirables—than it wants or deserves. It has somehow achieved a reputation as the center for outdoor marijuana cultivation, when it is only one of many counties in the rural, forested regions of California and Oregon where marijuana contributes significantly to the economy. Nothing goes on in Humboldt's marijuana trade that doesn't go on elsewhere. But perhaps this is why Humboldt continues to be useful as an example:

In Humboldt County, as in other regions of heavy production, marijuana cultivation has brought an uneasy mixture of good and evil. The sunny side is that the profits have made possible a quiet rural renaissance. The hillsides are dotted with new homes with solar panels on the roofs. The volunteer fire departments have adequate equipment, thanks to donations from anonymous growers, and amateur theatrical groups put on productions in the towns. Visitors who hadn't heard about the marijuana crop would never suspect its existence. The crop itself is extremely unobtrusive. The gardens are hidden from casual sight, and so

are the profits. The growers are more likely to invest in old pickup trucks than in new Mercedes, which would be too impractical and conspicuous. They try to blend in with their environment, using a concept like the "cosmetics" principle of the Steinberg organization's early days. The most obvious evidence of the marijuana economy is indirect, in the advertisements in the local papers for growers' supplies, such as bat guano in ton quantities.

The dark side is a result of the drug's disproportionate value. Sinsemilla usually retails in the \$100 to \$200 per ounce range in the cities, but occasionally, in times of scarcity and in small retail quantities, it brings a price equivalent to its weight's worth in gold. In Humboldt and elsewhere this results in a gold rush. People who never smoked marijuana and who were opposed to its effects on society began growing it, the money getting the better of their principles. Seasonal transients came in to sharecrop on others' land in exchange for a place to live and a grubstake, or to set up guerrilla gardens on government-owned land. The local economy heated up, as it always does with the drug trade. Settlers flocked in, pushing up the price of infertile forty-acre parcels whose attractiveness consists in being remote, in facing south toward the sun, and in having a source of water uphill for easy irrigation.

And as in any gold rush, thugs and lowlifes moved in along with the rest of the prospectors. In the harvest season, from the end of August through November, the county bristles with guns. It's a time of locked gates on remote unpaved roads and of the sudden chill that comes from knowing that someone is watching. The unwritten code seems to keep growers and cops from shooting at each other during raids, but some growers set up booby traps, and some cops pocket

valuables from raided houses, and each side vehemently denounces the other's violations of etiquette as a way of justifying its own behavior. When lawmen arrive in their helicopters, dressed in bulletproof vests, holding automatic weapons, they look overprepared for their tasks. The growers hardly ever resist arrest. And yet the cops' caution is justified: they never know when a grower won't live up to the code. The thieves preying on the growers have no code at all.

The level of violence in marijuana growing is hard to pinpoint, because many of the incidents go unreported and the rest are exaggerated as part of the grower-vs.-cop propaganda war. The shootouts are generally between growers and thieves. Sometimes the bodies aren't discovered until spring. But each West Coast harvest season also has its incidents of paranoid characters firing off rounds when the cops come near. The shots seem to be gestures of anger and territoriality more than direct attempts to hurt anybody, but there are exceptions, and exceptions are good enough reasons to wear bulletproof vests. And every year on the West Coast, and elsewhere, travelers in the woods get hurt in the booby traps that growers set up.

What happens most often is that growers with pot patches on government land emerge from the bushes with their guns and tell the startled hikers (or hunters, or crews checking the power lines, or loggers) to *git*, threatening them with retaliation if the law ever finds out. Usually nobody gets hurt, but it can only be a matter of time before some innocent civilian, or cop in the line of duty, gets killed by a grower in a way that attracts national attention and becomes a symbol for marijuana violence.

HUMBOLDT UPDATE

In the year that has passed since

Warner wrote about Humboldt County in Invisible Hand, the author reports three trends with ominous implications for the marijuana business. First, a growing sophistication by cops in aerial reconnaissance and raids on outdoor gardens; initial reports on this year's harvest bear out claims of a substantial amount of outdoor pot being spotted and confiscated. Second, has been the use of new legal tools like the Federal Crime Control Act of 1984 which gives law enforcement more leverage than ever against those charged with marijuana trafficking (see "Case in Point," HIGH TIMES, Dec. '86). Many long-time growers and dealers across the country have been "flipped"—that is, turned into informants against their will by the threat of heavy legal penalties. The feds have used this information to rip up whole networks. Third is a much greater investigative role by the IRS. HIGH TIMES will continue to publish news about these and other developments in Humboldt County as they become known.

—THE EDITOR



"I've always wanted to sell out. The problem is no one wanted to buy me."

"I can't help it, I enjoy the company of murderers, rapists and child molesters."

The Obsessions of JOHN WATERS

COMPUTER ILLUSTRATION BY GREGG SMITH

These and many more provocative opinions are tossed off by cult film director John Waters in his new book, *Crackpot* (Macmillan), a collection of essays on Waters' favorite pleasures and pet hates. Like its author, the book is bound to be controversial. Like Pia Zadora, about whom Waters writes, "indifference is hard to imagine," you'll either love it or hate it. But strong feelings are always applause to Waters' ears; he enjoys outraging middle-class moralists as much as (or even more) than praise for his wicked humor.

Some call Waters' movies camp fun. Others dismiss them as disgusting filth. Many claim that they are the most brilliant social satires ever put on film. But all film fanatics would agree that his works demand a strong reaction. Since the '60s, the author-director-producer has turned out a series of startling features which have redefined the term "bizarre" in film: *Mondo Trasho*, *Multiple Maniacs*, *Polyester*, *Pink Flamingos*, *Female Trouble*, and *Desperate Living*. Working with a group of offbeat performers in his hometown of Baltimore ("Bouffant hair-de capital of the world"), Waters' cheaply made flicks have included scenes of twisted sex, weird acts, and wacked-out plots, all shot through with the savage humor with which Waters parodies the "normal" world. In a finale that took exploitation movies beyond the valley of any kind of taste, the star of *Pink Flamingos*, a hefty transvestite named Divine, chewed down on some doggie doo, setting a new standard for "shock value," one of Waters' most cherished principles and the title of his first book.

Now Waters has committed a second book, a series of hilarious forays into the underbelly of American culture on subjects like Los Angeles, Joey Heatherton, the National Enquirer, and Christmas—all of which Waters loves. *Crackpot* is written in a precise prose that oozes with sarcastic venom, and which is occasionally, unexpectedly, touching.

The perpetrator of these celluloid and literary "crimes" arrived at the HIGH TIMES offices wearing a crew neck sweater and jeans, and asking for a cup of hot tea. He looked and acted not at all like the John Waters of his book jacket photograph, a mock George Hurrell portrait in *noirish* black and white in which he adopts a Truman Capote-cum-Peter Lorre dressed-to-kill pose. But this mild-mannered disguise is a convenient cover from which Waters wages war on middle-class mores, talking about the typical Waters subjects explored in *Crackpot*: drugs, Hollywood, repression, murderers, Catholic sex.

—John Howell

HIGH TIMES So here you are with a new book called *Crackpot*—is it all about the two drugs?

(laughter)

JOHN WATERS: I hadn't thought about that connection. I'm afraid people are going to think that this book is about me saying no to drugs when it's really about me saying yes to lunacy. Crack is the

first drug that I haven't tried—and I don't want to. I'm really down on all drugs. I don't think people who smoke pot should be arrested, but I think pot makes you satisfied with less in life. I smoked pot every day for years, then got tired of it.

HT Ken Kesey talked about not having to keep taking acid any more after certain changes had taken place in the mind.

JW: I can't imagine taking LSD now. I may sound like some old hippie, but I think the big difference is that when we took drugs in the '60s, the spirit was to learn and think more. Now, it's to think less, to just blot yourself out. Then, it was political, something was changing because of it. Now, nothing changes. Then, it was an adventure. But I don't need any more inner journeys at 40. I know myself well enough.

HT Did you ever have a bad experience with acid?

JW: Never. But I know people who are dead from drugs. Yet I did acid for many years, and I can remember very good things happening. I used to take acid and think, "These movies could really work." It made me ambitious at the time.

HT And now you're a success. There's even been an official John Waters Day in your hometown, Baltimore. How do you feel about being recognized by

the general public, about the times catching up with you?

JW: *Crackpot* is even an alternate selection of the Book-of-the-Month Club! It's very ironic. I think it would be very hard if I was 40 and still being hassled all the time. But I don't think I've changed. I think the sense of humor in *Crackpot* is the same as it is in the earliest movies. It's changed a little—I hope it's more subtle because I don't think there's anything more ridiculous than a 40 year old rebel. But the recognition feels good.

HT: We haven't seen a Waters film since *Polyester* around 1981. Why?

JW: Well, I've been trying. I tried to make the sequel to *Pink Flamingoes*, but no one would give me any money. They all said it was too extreme.

HT: You've also been trying to get backing for a film of *The Confederacy of Dunces*. John Kennedy O'Toole's comic novel.

JW: That is the only book I ever read that I wanted to film. What happened, which is in *Crackpot*, was the most disastrous Hollywood meeting ever. I left the producer, who was very nice, a copy of my first book, *Shock Value*, and in it is a picture of myself and a murderer. I found out later that the producer was the lawyer for the best friend of the person murdered by this guy. So it wasn't the best resume to leave.

HT: Are you planning a new film?

JW: It's a musical, something I've never done before, about white trash kids, their hillbilly parents, and their quest together for mental health. For a cast, I want Divine, Pia Zadora, and Joey Heatherton—if she calms down. We'll shoot this spring.

HT: Do you think '50s style taboos and conformity are back?

JW: When I go to college campuses, it's a lot like the '50s. But I do best in repression. When anybody tries to stop you, it helps. Look at *Play-*



boy, they finally made it controversial.

HT: Do you think *Crackpot* is shocking?

JW: I don't think I'm supposed to shock. I think I make people laugh at things that aren't funny in real life but can be funny in a movie or a book as long as they don't happen to you. I don't think people keep expecting me to top eating shit. My goal is to slip my most pernicious ideas into the most mainstream products. In *Crackpot*, the editors encouraged me to be as berserk as I wanted.

HT: Do the same things still obsess you? How have your obsessions changed? For example, in *Shock Value*, you wrote about attending murder trials. In *Crackpot*, you describe teaching film courses in prison.

JW: It's progressed even further now, to try and get some prisoners out. I'm not so much interested any more about the crime, I've gone beyond that. I'm interested in people ten, twenty years after they've done something really hideous, when they're better, because it's a very difficult position to be in. That's what fascinates me. I'm not interested in career criminals, but in crime that involves something psychological that I can't imagine.

HT: You've also written scripts and done improvisation sessions with inmates.

JW: We've even made a video called *Rotten Apples* which the prisoners and I wrote together. They have some good ideas. This prison really works—it has the lowest recidivism rate in the country.

HT: When you write about the scandal and Catholic condemnation of Jean-Luc Godard's *Hail Mary* movie, you mention that you wish an intelligent Catholic like Flannery O'Connor were around to explain the whole thing. Are you surprised that blasphemy still惹 people up today?

JW: I think intelligent Catholics, and I certainly believe there are some, are embarrassed by this kind of behavior. Sacrilege may be the only way left to get a reaction out of people. Sex and violence are old hat and besides, Hollywood does them. I did the rosary job in *Multiple Maniacs* years ago and people went insane. But I thought, "I'm a Catholic, I can make jokes about it." I'm not sorry I was raised Catholic because sex will always be better because it's dirtier. ●

"BEHIND THE GROW ROOM DOOR"



THC, the substance in cannabis that gets you high, is a factor in genetics. Seeds from plants that are potent generally produce plants that are similar to the parent. So, grow seeds from plants whose high you liked when you smoked them. The bigger and stronger the plants are, the more volume of flower tops and quantity of THC each one produces.

Seeds from potent plants produce potent offspring. To grow the strongest, healthiest plants possible requires a basic knowledge of how plants grow as well as of marijuana. Indoors, you have to duplicate the great outdoors in order to have a successful crop. Let's look at each individual requirement, then put them together to set up the grow room.

Plants need light, air, water, nutrients, a growing medium, and heat to manufacture food and to grow. Without any

one of these essentials, plants just do not grow. Of course, the light must be of the proper spectrum and intensity, air must be warm, arid, and rich in carbon dioxide; water abundant but not stagnant; and the growing medium must be warm and contain the proper levels of available nutrients. When all these needs are met consistently at optimum levels, optimum growth results.

LIGHT

Marijuana combines light energy with carbon dioxide (CO_2) in the air, water, and nutrients to form green chlorophyll and carbohydrates, releasing oxygen as a byproduct. This process is called photosynthesis. Without light, a plant is not able to produce green chlorophyll; leaves soon turn yellow, and eventually, death results. With the proper spectrum and intensity of light, chlorophyll is produced and rapid growth occurs.



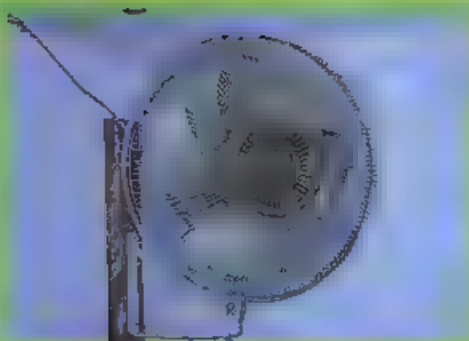
● The difference in color spectrum is easily seen as the HP sodium lamp (above) and the super metal halide (below) warm up to full brilliance.



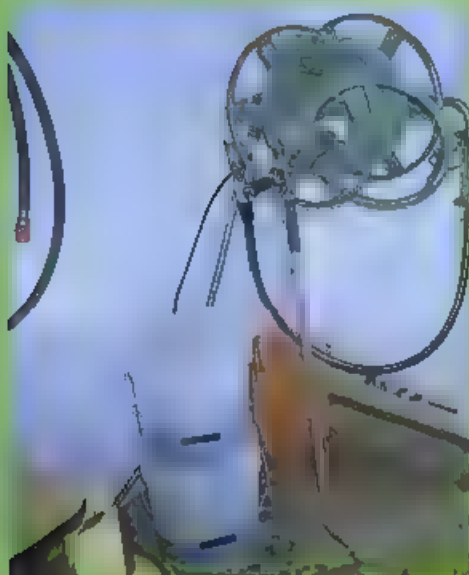
Plants need and use only certain portions of the light spectrum. The most important colors in the spectrum for maximum chlorophyll production and photosynthetic response are in the blue (445 nm) and red (650 nm) range.

Light is measured in wavelengths, the wavelengths are divided into nm (nm = nanometers, one nm = 0.000001 meter).

Phototropism is the movement of a plant part (foliage) towards illumination. Positive tropism means the foliage moves towards the light. Positive tropism is greatest in the blue end of the spectrum at about 450 nm. At this opti-



● Metal halide lamps provide a bright 100,000 lumens in the spectrum needed for plants to form lush vegetative growth as well as healthy flower tops.



● A squirrel cage exhauster fan will change the air in a 30' grow room in less than a minute.

● This squirrel cage exhauster fan will change the air in a 30' grow room in less than a minute.

imum level, plants lean towards the light, spreading their leaves out horizontally to absorb the maximum amount of light possible.

The photoperiod is the relationship between the length of the light period and dark period. Most marijuana varieties stay in the vegetative growth stage as long as an 18 hour light, 6 hour dark, photoperiod is maintained. 18 hours of light per day gives marijuana all the light needed to sustain optimum seedling and vegetative growth. The plants react as though it is the longest and sunniest day (June 22nd) every day of the year. Light has a minimal effect on growth after 16-18 hours per 24 hour period.

INDOOR LIGHTS

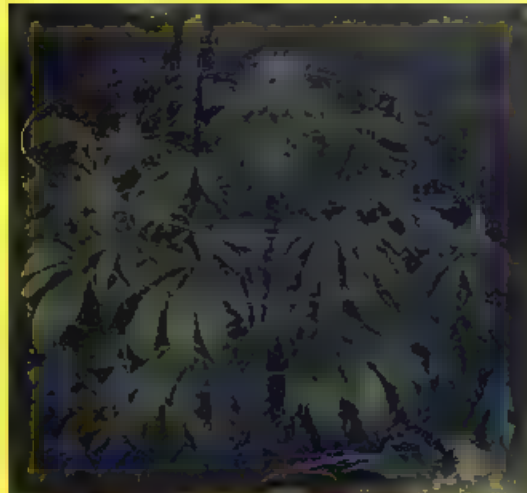
Metal halide lamps provide a bright 100,000 lumens in the spectrum needed for plants to form lush vegetative growth as well as healthy flower tops. Metal halide lamps are also manufac-



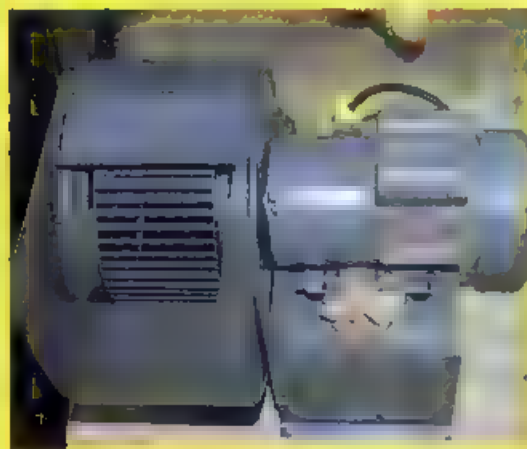
● This building in Mich. has been flowering some short four

tured in a super version which is rated at 125,000 initial lumens and cost about \$10 more. Complete super metal halide systems can be purchased from one of the many advertisers in **HIGH TIMES**.

Flowering is induced in most varieties most efficiently by lowering the light cycle to 12 hours of uninterrupted darkness in each 24 hour photoperiod. Optimum flowering potential is reached when this 12 hour photoperiod is coupled with high levels of intense light from the red end of the spectrum. After plants are 2-12 months old, altering the photoperiod to an even 12 hours day and night, induces visible signs of flowering in one to three weeks. The older the plant, the more rapidly flowering is induced. Research has proved that more than 12 hours of darkness does not induce flowering any faster and may substantially reduce flower formation and yield. Less than 12 hours of darkness prolongs flowering.



● Homemade hog wire baskets help heavy resistant branches to rest on up-grip.



● This squirrel cage exhauster fan will change the air in a 30' grow room in less than a minute.

The **HIGH PRESSURE (HP)** sodium lamp emits an orange-like glow that could be compared to the harvest sun. The color spectrum is highest in the yellow, orange, and red end. These colors promote flower production. During the fall vegetative growth slows and eventually stops. All the plant's energy and attention is focused on flower production so it may complete its annual life cycle. Light from the red end of the spectrum stimulates flora hormones within plants, promoting more flower production. When using a HP sodium lamp, flower volume and weight may increase 20% or more, depending on the strain and growing conditions. Many growers, using a 10' x 10' room, will retain the 1000 watt halide and add a 1000 watt sodium during flowering. This not only more than doubles available light, it increases the red end of the spectrum, causing flowers to form and grow like

continued on page 71

ASKED

BY MICHAEL ROSENTHAL



PLANT OF THE MONTH

I don't really see a lot of Michigan sinsemilla in your column so I decided to throw me and my brother's paranoia about mailing pictures out the window. This is an indica-sativa cross with a recent "Lone" rejuvenation. If you think it looks good in the pictures you should see what it does outside with a short and humid "MI-

chigan Summer."

These plants were just over 4 months old when they were cut. They were grown under a 1000 watt metal halide and continuously fed organic food mixed with water. I would seriously like to see at least one picture in your column.

—*Seriously*

Gumby buds in Michigan



BUD OF THE MONTH

This top was grown indoors under a 1000 watt metal halide and high pressure sodium in an almost soilless mixture. Its weight was 164 grams wet, 28 1/2 inches long. Picked June 26, 1986. Professionally photographed.

—*Michael*

Nebraska

I've been smoking for 15 years and have been growing for 2. Been working like a dog the past 10 months to find the right location, fertilizer mixture, light and reflectors. It's been worth it. I have an 18 cell nursery and a 50 cell flowering unit. Thought I'd send you a picture so we could get more New York gardens in the column.

This garden produces 18 plants every 2 1/2 weeks. Each plant yields 4 ounces of dry sinse.

I think you should stress how important air conditioners are in the grow room. They remove high humidity, cool the air, and contain the skunk odor from drifting into your neighbor's window

—*High Tech Party Hot Line*
Rochester, New York



Dear Ed,

Would an outdoor security light (high pressure sodium or mercury vapor) be sufficient source of light for a 3' x 5' indoor garden? The lights range between 70 and 175 watts.

—*Just Ed*

Reeferside, Kilo-Tornia

The high pressure sodium (HPS) lights will work well in an indoor garden. The mercury vapor lamps do not produce nearly as much light per watt as the HPS

lamps, and less of the light is in spectrums that the plants can use efficiently. A minimum of 15 watts of HPS light is required per square foot of growing space. A 15 square foot garden (three x five feet) should have a minimum electrical input of about 225 watts of HPS light.

Dear Ed,

I've recently started a grow room in a closet. The space is quite small, and after installing a 400 watt metal halide I'm left with only four feet of space between the floor and the light.

After one month, my plants started from seed were 18" tall. Now less than two months old, they are 4½ feet tall and growing past the light.

At what height should I begin the flowering cycle to obtain optimum results?

—Rookie

Roselle, Illinois

There may be a way to provide your plants with a little more vertical space. Use wide, rather than high containers. Plastic dish-pans can be converted into pots and only use 4½ inches of vertical space. A horizontally—rather than vertically—mounted HID lamp could save 6-12 inches. This would give you a crucial extra foot of space.

T.L. put plants into flowering at 11 inches.

Dear Ed,

Help! My problem is I just harvested some great-looking, great-smelling buds that should be kick-ass weed. But, in fact, it's about worthless. You could smoke a bale and never get off.

I started with some domestic seeds of unknown origin and used a commercial hydroponic unit, and followed the instructions carefully. My guess is that the seeds were of poor quality. What do you think?

—Baffled in Washington

Oak Harbor, Wash.

I agree. Plants can only live up to their potential. Seeds from high-quality grass are much more likely to be potent than seeds from ditchweed.

Dear Ed,

I have been growing for a year now, but I just started growing indoors. My question is, how do I keep my plants from growing too tall too fast? They're a foot tall and only have 5 sections of leaves.

—Michael

Jacksonville, Texas

Growers have used several techniques to control the vertical growth of their plants. Over the years, the varieties used for both indoor and outdoor growth have tipped in favor of indicas rather than sativas. Indicas tend to be compact with shorter internodes be-

tween the leaves. Sativas have longer internodes. The change to indicas has removed the vertical pressure on growers.

Methods of cultivation have also changed. Years ago, a plant would be grown for several months before flowering was induced. The plant would be from three to six feet high. The plants would grow another foot or two during flowering. The tendency has been to get to smaller, shorter plants by inducing flowering when the plants are shorter, typically between one and two feet tall. They grow another 1½-2 feet depending on variety and environmental conditions. Some growers have taken advantage of the shorter plants by growing on stacked shelves, each shelf four feet high. Growers have also used commercially available products such as "B-9" which restricts vertical growth. A plant's vertical growth can be cut in half using this chemical.

Dear Ed,

What would happen if a plant were allowed to flower for two or three months after the buds were ready for harvest? Would new flowers form?

—Gary

Lynchburg, VA

With most varieties the flowers would continue to form but at a much slower rate. These include most of the equatorials. A few varieties would have plants that would die as the flowers matured. These include Moroccans and some indicas. Other varieties, especially the Thais, would continue to produce buds over a long period of time.

Dear Ed,

I'm sure you've heard of bonsai, the ancient art of tree sculpture. It originated in China and it involves the manipulation and pinching of branches over a period of time so that the tree is stunted but continues to grow and thrive. Would it be feasible to use this technique in the production of marijuana? Would it change the plant's potency?

—Mr. & Mrs. Herb

Southbury, Connecticut

Every time I see a bonsai exhibit I promise myself to grow a bonsai plant. I have not done it yet though. I had a friend who grew a bonsai Colombian plant. He kept it in a small pot, and was always trimming roots, leaves, and branches. The plant was two and a half years old and only 30 inches high. He never let the plant flower for fear that it would die. I do not think that bonsais would be an efficient means of producing marijuana, however, since the growth of buds would also be somewhat miniaturized.

Dear Ed,

I haven't read much lately about stressing plants to make them more potent. Is that just an old growers' tale or is there any validity to the practice?

—Kyle

Santa Monica, California

Growers have found that the best way to cultivate marijuana is to grow healthy, vigorous plants. That means keeping the plants as free of stress as much as possible. There are still two old growers' tales that make the rounds. One is to water stress the plant towards the end of flowering. I do not think that this increases either potency or bud size. The other is that buds are more potent when grown in a dry rather than humid environment. This experiment could easily be run with clones.

Dear Ed,

If a plant is hermaphroditic when it is grown indoors, will the seeds and cuttings from this plant be hermaphroditic if grown outdoors?

—Curious

Tonawanda, NY

Probably. For the most part hermaphroditism is a genetic characteristic. Plants grown from hermaphroditic plants will carry the trait and grow to be hermaphrodites themselves.

However, some plants turn hermaphroditic in response to light stress. One researcher in Holland, who runs Sacred Seeds, claims that hermaphroditism is more common among plants growing in artificially lit environments than plants growing under sunlight.

Dear Ed,

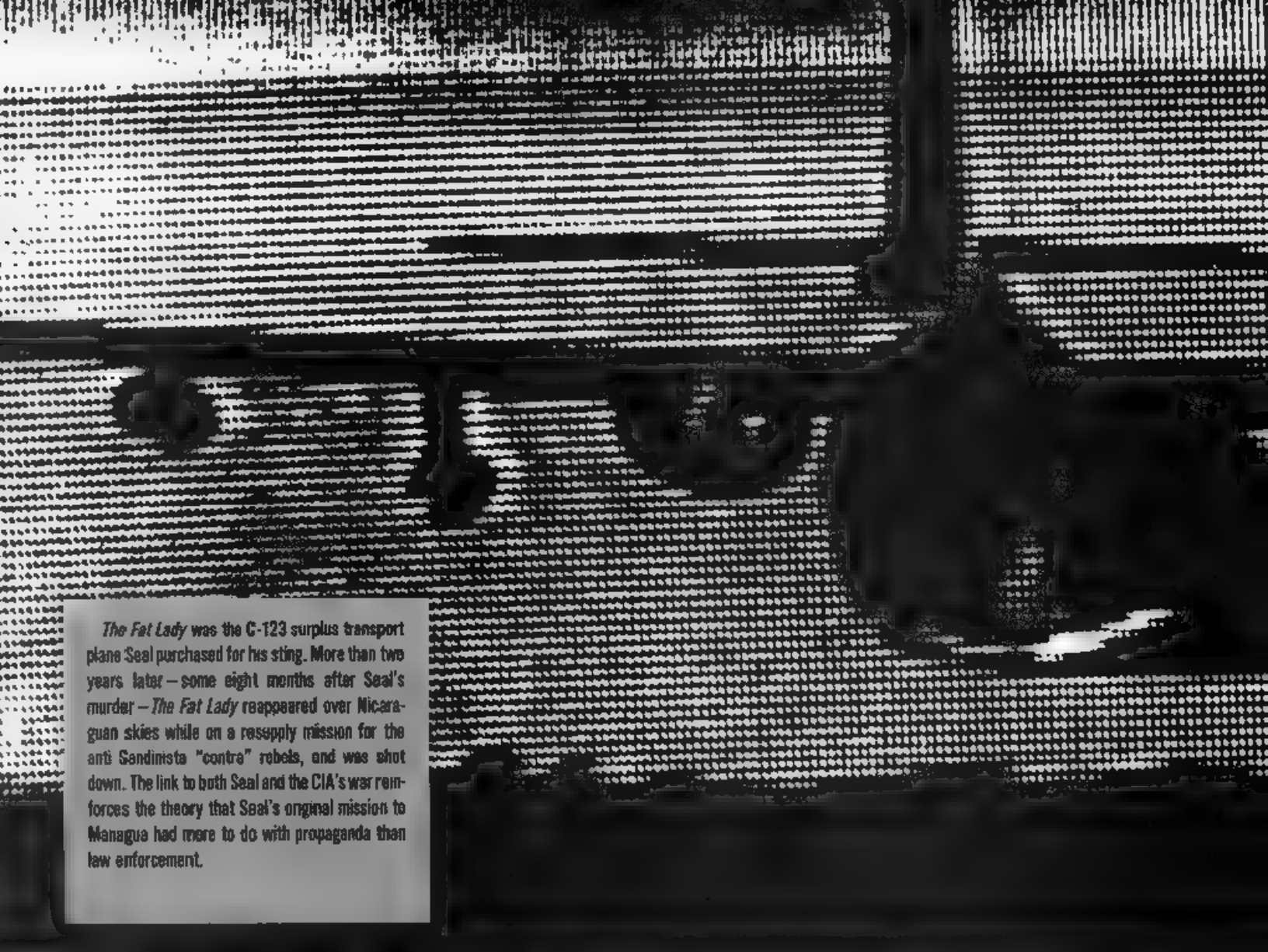
I would like to grow a few plants in a small space. I have seen ads touting the superiority of high pressure sodium and metal halide lamps but would like to purchase a low cost system that would be adequate and appropriate for my small garden. I have considered fluorescent but have also noticed other lights and I am becoming confused. I wondered if a 300 watt quartz halogen or a 70 watt high pressure sodium, both used for outdoor lighting, would be suitable for my needs.

—L.C.

Abilene, Texas

The quartz halogen light is very inefficient and has a poor spectrum for vigorous growth. The high pressure sodiums are fine for plant growth. Use about 20 watts per square foot of growing area. A 70 watt lamp would light about 3½ square feet of space. Fluorents are also very efficient.

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The Fat Lady was the C-123 surplus transport plane Seal purchased for his sting. More than two years later—some eight months after Seal's murder—*The Fat Lady* reappeared over Nicaraguan skies while on a resupply mission for the anti Sandinista "contra" rebels, and was shot down. The link to both Seal and the CIA's war reinforces the theory that Seal's original mission to Managua had more to do with propaganda than law enforcement.

GHOST PLANE IN THE SKY

by Joel Millman

Photographs by Donna DeCesare

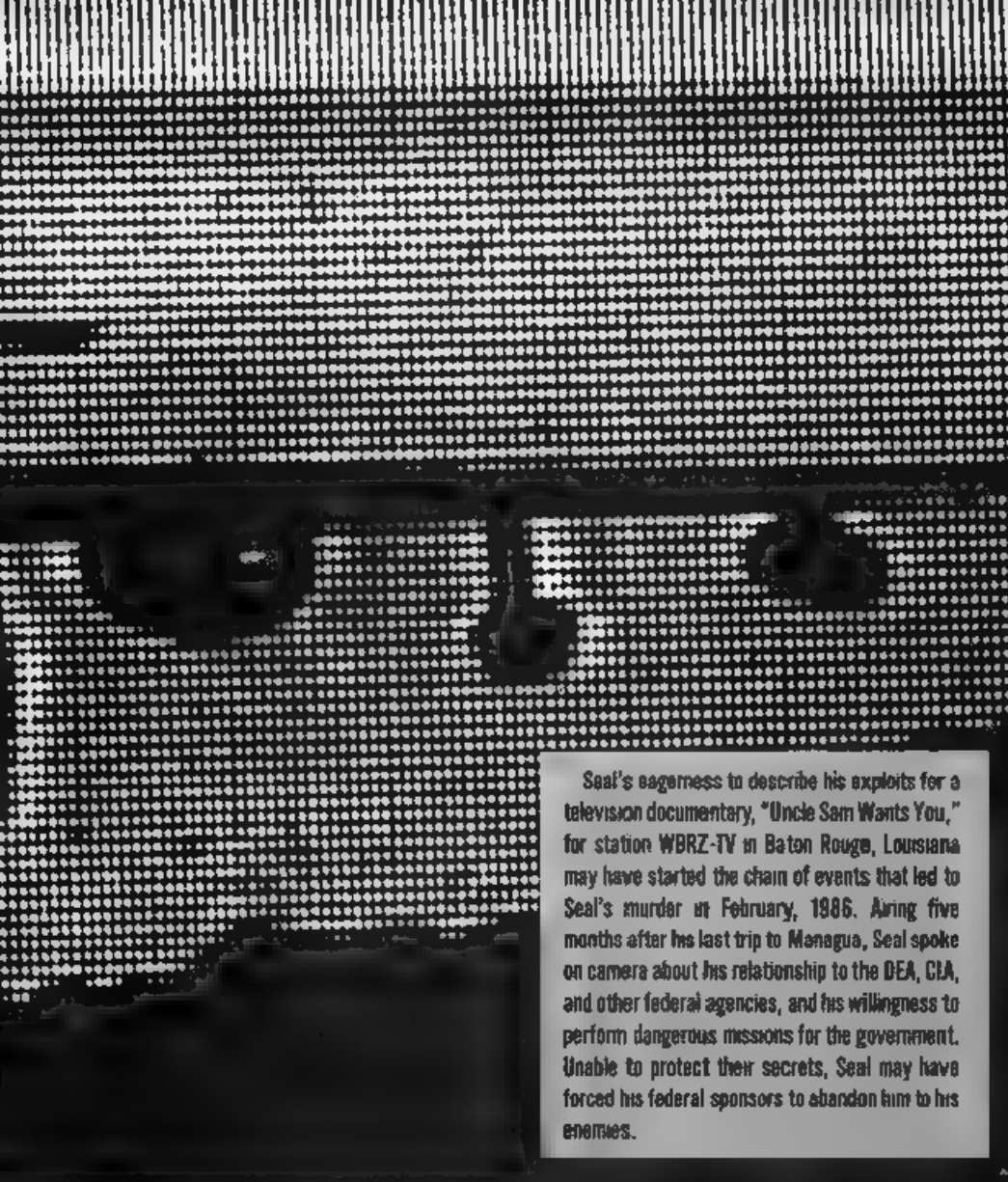
The restless ghost of murdered dope smuggler and DEA/CIA informant Adler (Barry) Seal, gunned down in February, 1986 in a Baton Rouge, Louisiana parking lot, surfaced eight months later in the form of "The Fat Lady," a C-123 cargo plane shot down in Nicaragua while carrying weapons and ammunition to the "contra" forces, armed rebels supported by the Reagan regime. A DEA official has admitted that the plane was "the same used in the Barry Seal operation," referring to the photographic "evidence" acquired by Seal for the CIA that members of the Sandinista government were involved in drug trafficking. The supply plane belonged to the U.S. government at least until 1983 when it was taken from storage at the Davis-Monthan Air Base in Tucson, Arizona. After its use in the CIA-Nicaragua operation in 1984, the plane's ownership becomes unclear.

As Executive Almighty Editor Dean Latimer reported ("Highwitness News, June, 1986), Seal's murky past makes this development no surprise. Journalist Joel Millman, whose report which began to reveal Seal's role in the secret war in Central America appeared in *HIGH TIMES* on the very day Seal was murdered ("Sandinistas: Victimizers or Victims?," April, 1986), has now uncovered yet more facts linking Seal, the DEA, the CIA, and Reagan government officials to a covert effort to whip up a war frenzy against Nicaragua.

—THE EDITORS

They met him as he backed his white Fleetwood Cadillac into a parking space and sprayed more than 50 bullets through the passenger window, opening nearly a dozen gaping wounds across the big man's neck, chest, and face. Within seconds the Cadillac's front seat was soaked with blood. Within hours the murder had hit the national wires. Less than a day went by before authorities had three suspects in custody. Federal officials referred all questions about the big man to a Justice Department office in Washington. And in Washington officials were saying hardly anything at all.

Barry Seal—the big man—was almost certainly the victim of a drug hit. But he was also a casualty of the secret war against Nicaragua, for his activities are virtually the sole basis for the Reagan administration's claim that "top Sandinista officials" are engaged in "narco-terrorism."



Seal's eagerness to describe his exploits for a television documentary, "Uncle Sam Wants You," for station WBRZ-TV in Baton Rouge, Louisiana may have started the chain of events that led to Seal's murder in February, 1986. Airing five months after his last trip to Managua, Seal spoke on camera about his relationship to the DEA, CIA, and other federal agencies, and his willingness to perform dangerous missions for the government. Unable to protect their secrets, Seal may have forced his federal sponsors to abandon him to his enemies.



SOURCE: WBRZ-TV, CHANNEL 2, BATON ROUGE, LA.

From 1977 to 1982, Seal was a smuggler, first running marijuana up from Ecuador and Colombia to Louisiana, then graduating to the more lucrative cocaine trade. He became a federal informant in March, 1984, flying dope missions for the Drug Enforcement Administration and setting up former associates in the U.S. and Latin America for prosecution. Seal's undercover activities took him to Managua, where he met with Colombian drug traffickers allegedly working with the Sandinista regime.

Seal's photographs of those meetings—one of which President Reagan used during a nationwide television address in March—made the pilot a prized soldier in the White House's secret war against Nicaragua. Yet after almost two years of loyal service on countless covert missions, he faced his murderers alone—unprotected by the federal officials who had used him so well.

Who killed Barry Seal? Federal officials were quick to point the finger at Colombian cocaine lords, against whom Seal was expected to testify late last year. But others may have wished to see Seal dead as well, including those behind the secret war against Nicaragua. In fact, evidence has emerged that Seal may have set up the so-called Sandinista cocaine smuggling operation himself, on orders from or with the cooperation of top administration officials. There are even those within the soldier-of-fortune community who believe that Seal had firsthand knowledge of drug smuggling operations involving the contras.

In any case, Barry Seal's story, rather than confirming administration claims of Sandinista "narco-terrorism," sheds light on the shadowy methods by which the American government has attempted to discredit the Managua regime.

According to Seal's court testimony, he came upon the Sandinista connection by accident. He testified that when he first met with Colombian cocaine kingpins Jorge and Flavio Ochoa in Medellin, they told him they would soon be moving their processing facility to Managua, where—despite the fact that they themselves were staunch anti-communists—they said they had bribed top Sandinista ministers into allowing them access to military airfields.

After several delays, the Ochoas instructed Seal to fly down to Colombia in June. He and copilot Emille Camp had agreed to transport the cocaine back to his Ascension Parish airstrip, then divide the cargo into two shipments, to be trucked to Miami and the West Coast. It was the rainy season when Seal and Camp arrived in Colombia and, dangerously overloaded, their craft was almost destroyed trying to take off on the muddy runway.



Spring, 1984. This sequence of photographs, according to the testimony of federal informant Seal, were taken on the ground at Los Brasiles military airfield outside Managua. There are no indications that the activity is going on at an official installation nor, despite the widely-reported claim of Sandinistas "in uniform," are any of the figures seen here in military garb. According to Seal (the rather rotund gringo in the white shirt), he had been ordered to activate his camera by means of a remote electronic beam. Discovering his remote apparatus was inoperative, Seal said, he then snapped the photos by hand, a seemingly impossible feat given his prominence in each frame. Standing near Seal, with his back to the camera is the supposed Nicaraguan official, Federico Vaughan; the man in the striped shirt is Pablo Escobar, reputed Colombian cocaine mafioso.

Given a replacement—a twin-engine Titan—Seal protested that he could not return to Louisiana without a refueling stop. He said he and Camp were then ordered to fly to Managua, where, he later testified, arrangements to receive them had already been made.

Everything went according to plan, Seal said, until he and Camp took off from Managua for the last leg of the flight to Louisiana. Someone forgot to warn the Sandinista defense battery that Seal's plane had been cleared for takeoff. It was fired upon, damaged, and forced to make an emergency landing. Seal and Camp were arrested—as Seal testified, this was to make it look good, "until the newspapers calmed down"—while he arranged with the Ochoas' Sandinista accomplices to leave his cargo in Managua until he could return with a

new plane. He and Camp returned by private jet to the United States, where Seal immediately told the DEA about the new break in the case.

With Seal maintaining contact with Ochoa distributors Felix Dixon Bates and Carlos Bustamante in Miami, the Ochoas in South America, and the cartel's agents in Managua, the DEA called in the CIA to rig Seal's aircraft—*The Fat Lady*—for the return flight to Nicaragua. Seal brought Camp and a mechanic to help out in the operation. The mechanic, who prefers anonymity, remembers the preparations. "We took *The Fat Lady* to an Air Force base in Ohio," he says. "Rickenbacker, near Columbus. And let me tell you, we had the run of the place. Whatever we wanted, we got. One time I had to run into town for a new fuel pump for *The Fat Lady*, and they assigned a full major to go along with me." CIA techni-

cians installed a small camera behind a bulkhead overlooking *The Fat Lady's* cargo doors and taught Seal how to snap its shutter with a remote radio beam.

Seal testified, and the mechanic confirmed, that *The Fat Lady* returned to Nicaragua in late June, entering the country over the Caribbean port of Bluefields. Encountering turbulence, the three flew south to the Nicaragua-Costa Rica border, then northwest over Lakes Nicaragua and Managua, before landing outside the capitol. "They had us just outside Managua," the mechanic recalls. "They used soldiers to load the drugs, but they were wearing civilian clothes, T-shirts, and cheap trousers. Some of them had Che Guevara berets. Around the back, like a perimeter, were soldiers in uniform, to keep anyone from getting near the plane."

Seal, Camp, and the mechanic were on the ground for less than an hour, just long enough to refuel, turn around, and wait for the cargo to be loaded. Seal discovered he couldn't make the camera work from outside the plane, so he crawled back inside to expose a roll of film by hand.

While Seal's arrangement with the Ochoas was to return to his airstrip near Baton Rouge, he landed instead at Homestead Air Force Base just south of Miami. The cargo was off-loaded, then repacked into a Winnebago camper, the same vehicle Seal had instructed Bates and Bustamante to buy, and which the Ochoa distributors believed was being driven by Seal's men from Baton Rouge to Florida. After waiting 24 hours to simulate the drive-time from Louisiana to Florida, federal agents staged a highway accident with the camper, leading to a "search" and the "discovery" of the contraband.

In mid-July, 1984, a White House official leaked news of Seal's trip to Managua to the right-wing *Washington Times*, which used its front page to declare that "top Sandinista officials" were implicated in the drug trade. Citing anonymous administration officials, the *Times* even suggested that "the smuggling operation from Central America to the United States was being supervised by KGB agents assigned to Managua."

Seal's photographs—the roll of grainy, black and white stills shot through *The Fat Lady's* cargo bay—made that leak irresistible. After

continued on page 96

NOTHING TO HIDE?!



PHOTOGRAPHY BY ANDRE GROSSMAN

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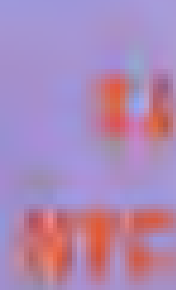
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GROW - ROOM

continued from page 63

crazy. This 1:1 ratio (1 halide and 1 HP sodium) is a popular combination for promoting flowering

GROW LIGHTS

With these simple facts of light, we can build a vegetative room and a flowering room to ensure a perpetual crop and quadruple the normal one room harvest. **The secret: timing.** When there is a perpetual harvest, one or several clones are taken and one plant is harvested. There is never a bare spot underneath a lamp!

In the ideal three or four lamp arrangement, one lamp, a 1,000 watt super metal halide, is hung in the center of a 10' x 10' room. This is the vegetative room with a 18 hour light and 6 hour dark photoperiod. This is where the seedlings grow and are transplanted into larger containers and grown for about two months.

The flowering room engages a 12 hour light, 12 hour dark cycle. This room measures at least 15' x 15', and has two, three, or four lamps, halide(s) and HP sodium(s) that are suspended from a light baffle. The plants are placed in this room after being in the vegetative room two months. Maes are distinguished and removed after two to three weeks of the 12 hour photoperiod. The young female plants should be about 12" to 18" tall when moved into the flowering room. The lamps are kept as close as possible (3-6") to the young adult plants. The small plants that receive less light can be elevated by placing them on a upside down one or two gallon pot.

AIR

Fresh air is fundamental for a successful indoor garden. Outdoors, air is abundant and almost always fresh. For example: the level of CO₂ in the air over a field of rapidly growing vegetation could be only 1/3 of normal on a very still day, slowing growth to a crawl. Soon, the wind blows in fresh new CO₂-rich air. Rains wash the air and plants of dust and pollutants. All of this happens naturally in the outdoor atmosphere. When plants are growing in a small enclosed room, Mother Nature really has to be on her toes to replicate the air of the great outdoors.

AIR MOVEMENT

In order to have a good flow of air through the stomata, adequate air circulation and ventilation are necessary. Indoors, fresh air is one of the most commonly overlooked factors contributing to a bountiful harvest. Fresh air is the least expensive element that can be made available to a plant. Experienced

continued on page 73

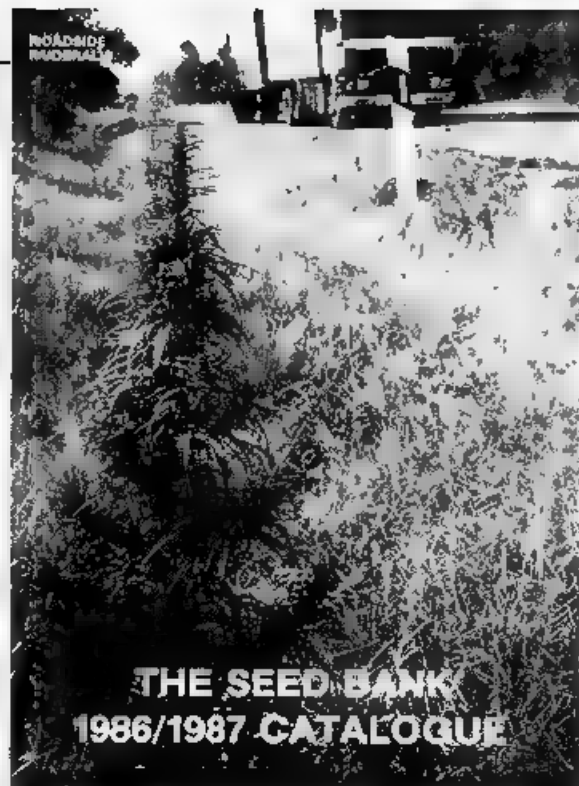
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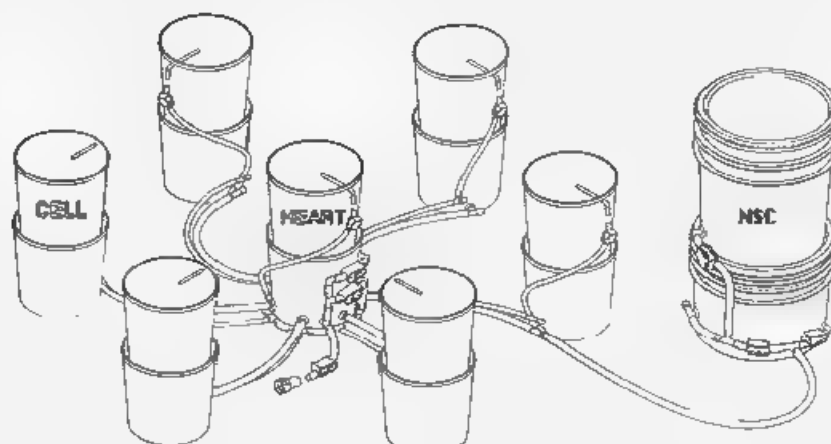
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continued from page 71

growers really understand the importance of fresh air and take the time to set up a vent fan before introducing plants. Three factors affect air movement: (1) stomata (2) ventilation and (3) circulation.

Stomata are microscopic pores on the leaf's underside, similar to an animal's nostrils. Animals regulate the amount of oxygen (O_2) inhaled and CO_2 exhaled through the nostrils via the lungs. In a plant, O_2 and CO_2 flows are regulated by the stomata. The larger the plant the more stomata it has to take in CO_2 and release O_2 . The greater the volume of plants, the more CO_2 -rich air they must have to maintain rapid growth. Dirty, clogged stomata restrict the air flow. Stomata are easily clogged by dirt, polluted air, or sprays that leave a filmy residue. In nature, stomata are cleaned by rain and wind. Indoors, the horticulturist must make rain with a sprayer and wind with a fan.

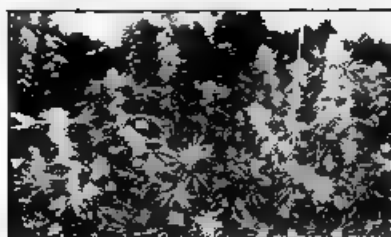
TEMPERATURE

During the lighted part of the cycle, the ideal temperature range for indoor marijuana growth is 72-76 degrees F. At night, the temperature can drop 10-15 degrees with no effect on growth rate. The temperature should not drop more than 20 degrees F, or excessive humidity and mold might become a problem. Daytime temperatures over 100 degrees F and below 60 degrees F seem to slow down growth. Maintaining the proper, constant temperature in the grow room promotes strong, healthy growth. Make sure plants are not too close to a heat source, like a ballast or heat vent, or they may dry out, maybe even get heat scorch!

HUMIDITY

Relative humidity is the ratio between the amount of moisture in the air and the greatest amount of moisture the air could hold at the same temperature. The hotter it is, the more moisture air can hold, the cooler it is, the less moisture the air can hold. When the temperature in a grow room drops, the humidity climbs and moisture condenses. For example, a 1000 cubic foot ($10' \times 10'$) grow room will hold a maximum of about 17.5 ounces of water when the temperature is 70 degrees and relative humidity is at 100%. When the temperature is increased to 100 degrees the same room will hold about 45 ounces of moisture at 100% relative humidity. That's 2½ times as much moisture! When the temperature drops, this moisture condenses into water drops inside the grow room and creates perfect conditions for fungus growth.

continued over



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GROW - ROOM

continued from previous page

Cannabis grows best when the relative humidity range is from 40 to 60%. As with temperature, a constant humidity range promotes healthy, even growth. Humidity affects the transpiration rate of the stomata. When high humidity exists, water evaporates slowly. The stomata close, transpiration slows, and so does plant growth. Water evaporates quickly into dryer air causing stomata to open, increasing transpiration and growth.

Water is essential to plant growth, making up over 75% of a plant's weight. The roots absorb water, nutrients (fertilizer), and oxygen in the soil and carry them up the stem to the leaves. A fraction of the water is processed and used in photosynthesis. The water evaporates into the air, carrying waste products along with it via the stomata in the leaves. Some of the water also returns manufactured sugars and starches to the roots.

FERTILIZER

Marijuana grows so fast under High Intensity Discharge (HID) lamps that ordinary potting soil can not supply all necessary nutrients for rapid, healthy growth. Fertilizing is necessary to make extra nutrients available for sustained vigorous growth.

There are about 14 known elements necessary for plant life. Carbon, hydrogen, and oxygen are absorbed from the air and water. The rest of the elements, called nutrients, are absorbed mainly from the soil or fertilizer. The primary nutrients, nitrogen (N), phosphorus (P), and potassium (K) are the elements a plant uses the most. Almost all fertilizers show the N-P-K percentages in big numbers on the front of the package. They are always listed in the same N-P-K order. For example a 23-19-17 fertilizer has 23% nitrogen, 19% phosphorus and 17% potassium.

Calcium (Ca) and magnesium (Mg) (Ca and Mg are also classified with N-P-K as macro-nutrients) are secondary nutrients or elements. Iron (Fe), sulfur (S), manganese (Mn), boron (B), molybdenum (Mb), zinc (Zn), and copper (Cu) are micro-nutrients or trace elements. Marijuana uses more magnesium than most general purpose fertilizers supply. Mg and Ca are usually added in the form of fine dolomite lime when soil is mixed. Trace elements are usually found in sufficient quantities in potting soil and in complete fertilizers like Peters, DynaGrow, Miracle Grow, and Eco Grow for health plant growth, and do not need to be added. Unless fortified, soilless mixes and some potting soil mixes may be severely lacking.

in secondary and trace elements. It is a good idea to use a fertilizer containing trace elements.

SOIL

Soil is made up of many mineral particles mixed together with living and dead organic matter than incorporates air and water. Three factors contribute to the roots' ability to grow in soil. (1) texture (2) pH and (3) nutrient content.

Texture is governed by the size and physical make-up of the mineral particles. The proper soil texture is required for adequate root penetration, water and oxygen retention and drainage, as well as many other complex chemical processes. Clay or adobe soil is made up of very small flat mineral particles. When it gets wet, these minute particles pack tightly together, slowing or stopping root penetration and water drainage. Roots are unable to breathe because very little or no space is left for oxygen. Water has a very difficult time penetrating these tightly packed soils, and once it does penetrate it, drainage is slow. Sandy soils have much larger particles. They permit good aeration (supply of air or oxygen) and drainage. Frequent water retention is very low. The soil's water and air holding ability, as well as root penetration, are a function of texture.

pH

pH is a scale from 1 to 14 that measures acid-to-alkaline balance, with 1 the most acidic, 7 neutral, and 14 most alkaline. Cannabis will grow best in soil with a pH from 6 to 7. Within this range marijuana can properly absorb and process available nutrients. If the pH is too low (acidic) the nutrients are chemically bound by acid salts and the roots are unable to absorb them. An alkaline soil, with a high pH, will cause toxic salt build up and limit water intake by roots. Hydroponic solutions perform best in a pH range a little lower than for soil. The pH range for hydroponics is from 5.8 to 6.8, with 6.3 being ideal.

Potting soil from the nursery is the easiest soil to use for indoor cultivation. It is usually pH balanced, contains adequate levels of most all nutrients, retains water and air evenly, drains well, and allows easy root growth. But most potting soils, except those containing exceptional amounts of organic fertilizer amendments, will be depleted of nutrients within two to three weeks. After this time, supplemental fertilization will usually be necessary. Potting soils tend to be very localized, since they are so heavy and shipping costs prohibitive. There are many good brands to choose from. Ask your nursery person for help in selecting one. But make a point of checking the pH yourself and add a handful of fine dolomite lime per cubic foot of soil.

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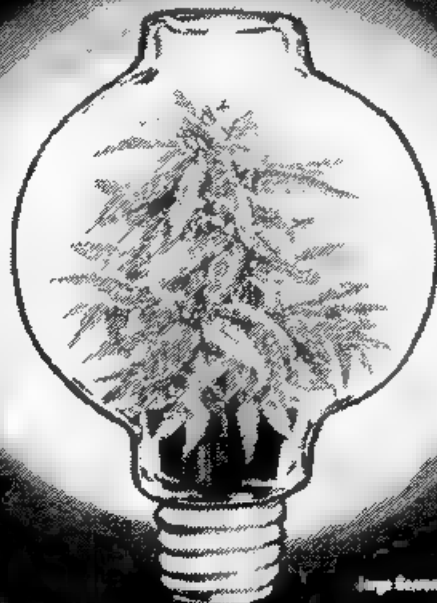
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GROW ROOM

continued from previous page

HYDROPONICS

Soilless medium has the same characteristics as soil except for one factor: all of the ingredients are inert. That is, they do not react chemically with fertilizers to change the pH and alter nutrient availability.

Pea gravel and Geolite™ are two of the inert soilless mediums most commonly used to hold the roots and stabilize the plant while the nutrient solution passes over the roots. In active hydroponic units, the nutrient solution drains away from the roots, so that oxygen has a chance to work with the roots to draw in the nutrients.

These hydroponic mediums trap air between the large particles. The roots form numerous furry feeding hairs within the air spaces. This is a perfect environment for rapid nutrient uptake. The abundance of oxygen hastens the uptake of nutrients—this is the main advantage of a hydroponic system which uses inert soilless mediums.

Other than making sure soil containers are clean, there are two important factors to consider: (1) drainage holes and (2) size.

Drainage holes should let the excess water drain easily, but not be so big that soil in the bottom of the container washes out onto the floor. Pots may be lined with newspaper if drainage is too rapid or soil washes out drain holes. This will slow drainage, so be wary!

Rule of thumb: have at least two 1/2" (four 1/4") holes per square foot of bottom. When using a tray under pot, do not let excess water sit in the tray for over three days. This stagnant water could cause root rot and fungus.

The size of the container is very important. Cannabis is an annual plant and grows very rapidly, requiring a lot of root space for vigorous growth. If the roots are confined, growth slows to a crawl.

SETTING UP THE GROW ROOM

The grow room should be set up before any plants are introduced. Construction requires space and planning.

Step One: Choose an out-of-the-way space with little or no traffic such as a corner in the basement. Remember, corners already provide two of the room's walls should it need to be enclosed. The size of a grow room determines the wattage of lamp used. The 400 watt lamps are just fine for smaller rooms such as closets or rooms with 9-21 sq. ft. of floor space. A 1000 watt HID, properly set up, will efficiently illuminate up to a 10' x 10' area (a 10' x 20' area requires 2 lamps,

20' x 20' = 4 lamps, etc.) if a light balancer is used (See HIGH TIMES, December, 1985). The ceiling should be at least six feet high. Remember, plants are set one or two feet off the ground in containers and the lamp needs about a foot of space to hang from the ceiling. This leaves only three or four feet of space for plants to grow. However, if forced to grow in an attic or basement with a low five foot ceiling, much can be done to compensate for the loss of height, including cloning, bending, and pruning.

Step Two: Enclose the room, if it's not already enclosed. Remove everything not having to do with the garden. Furniture and especially drapes or curtains may harbor fungi. A totally enclosed room permits easy, precise control of everything and everyone that enters and exits, and who and what goes on inside. For most growers, enclosing the grow room is simply a matter of tacking up some plywood and painting it flat white.

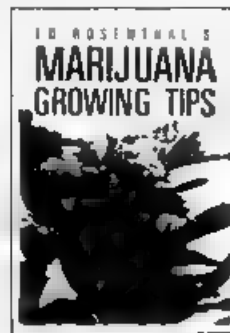
Step Three: Cover the walls, ceiling, floor, everything, with a highly reflective material such as flat white paint. The more reflection, the more light energy that is available to plants. Good reflective light allows effective coverage of a 1000 watt metal halide or HP sodium lamp to increase from 36 sq. ft., with no reflective material, to a maximum of 100 sq. ft., just by putting \$10-\$20 worth of paint on the walls. The lamp should have a good reflective hood (I prefer the adjustable 45" reflective hoods).

Step Four: Constant circulation and a supply of fresh air are essential even with CO₂ enrichment. There should be at least one fresh air vent in a 10' x 10' room, preferably two. Vents may be an open door, window, or heat vent. A small exhaust fan, vented outdoors, pulling new fresh air through an open door will create an ideal air flow. A small oscillating fan works well for circulation. When installing such a fan, make sure it is not set in a fixed position and blows too hard on tender plants; it could cause wind burn, or, in the case of young seedlings and clones, dry them out. If the room contains a heat vent, it may be opened to supply extra heat or air circulation.

Step Five: The larger your garden gets, the more water it will need. A 10' x 10' garden may need as much as 30 gallons a week. You may carry water in, a container at a time (one gallon of water weighs eight pounds). It is much easier to run in a hose with an on/off valve or install a hose bib in the room.

Step Six: Ideally, the floor should be concrete or a smooth surface that can be swept and/or washed down. A floor drain is very handy. In grow rooms with carpet or wood floors, a large white

continued on page 93



Contains articles originally published in *High Times* which Ed rewrote especially for this book. This volume has many facets: it's a cultivation book with specific growing information for indoor and outdoor gardeners (chapters on soils, lights, CO₂, cuttings, choosing seeds). It's also a travel book, describing cultivation and curing techniques practiced all over the world, including Morocco and India. And it contains the most complete interview ever given by Dr. Carlton Turner who is currently Drug Policy Advisor for the Reagan Administration but who ran the government-sponsored pot farm at the University of Mississippi in 1981. This interview contains important information about cultivation, THC chemistry, and government policies regarding marijuana.

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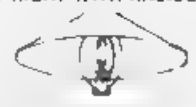
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CASE IN POINT

BOOZE AND GRASS IN ALASKA

● **Revisited** • 1988
legal, eleven years
later: 6

A monthly report on drugs and the law. Written in consultation with Kevin Ziese, NORML Chief Counsel.

BY IRWIN RAVIN

The case that gives rise to this column is that of *Hugh Harrison v. State of Alaska*—a case that's not very important in itself.

Harrison, an Alaska state trooper who apparently enjoyed an occasional nip, was transferred in late 1981 to duty in St. Mary's, a "dry" village on the Yukon River. In April '82, he flew a plane in from Nome to St. Mary's carrying a load of beer and vodka. Two days later police searched his home and found 62 liters of beer and 175 liters of vodka. He was convicted under the local ordinance of importing alcohol and then appealed, arguing in part that the local law violated his right to privacy under the state constitution.

In August '84, the Alaskan court of appeals affirmed his conviction. In so doing they had to draw some sharp distinctions between Harrison's case and one from 1975 involving a chap named Irwin Ravin. It was the Ravin case that effectively legalized "the possession of marijuana by an adult for personal consumption" in the state of Alaska.

You see, the Alaska Constitution specifically protects the "Right of Privacy." The state proudly guards that right: "Our territory and now state," the Alaska Supreme Court wrote in the Ravin decision, "has traditionally been the home of people who prize their individuality and who have chosen to settle or to continue living here in order to achieve a measure of control over their own lifestyles which is now virtually unattainable in many of our sister states."

In concluding that the state had no right to go rooting through people's domiciles and belongings in search of their personal pot stashes, they stated unequivocally, "We believe this tenet to be basic to a free society. The state cannot impose its own notions of morality, propriety, or fashion on individuals when the public has no legitimate interest in the affairs of these individuals."

So, in response to Harrison's appeal, the appeals judges had to explain why his case was different from Ravin's—and they had no trouble doing that. The Ravin decision, they pointed out, had not affirmed a "fundamental right...to possess or ingest marijuana." It was the privacy of the home, and implicitly the person, that was at issue, and that privacy wasn't absolute. If marijuana were the cause of a significant public health problem, then that right might have to give way to the public interest. But, "given the evidence of the relative harmlessness of the drug," they told Harrison, "an individual's right of privacy in the home outweighed the government's interest in regulating personal use of marijuana in the home."

Despite the defeat of the Oregon Marijuana Initiative at the polls last fall, some states continue to exercise a more enlightened attitude toward pot.

Alcohol, on the other hand, was far from harmless, they explained, citing these facts among others: "Alaska's alcoholism mortality rate in 1975 was 418 percent higher than the national average... one out of every ten Alaskans is an alcoholic...(in rural areas of the state) 77.9 percent of violent crimes and 55.6 percent of property crimes were committed under the influence of alcohol." With a drug problem of that severity ravaging the Alaskan population, the town of St. Mary's had a perfect right to outlaw the importing of booze, regardless of trooper Harrison's lifestyle. (This decision, by the way, did not address Harrison's right to drink in his own home, but only his right to import or sell alcohol. Smuggling and dealing pot are still illegal in Alaska.)

What I find interesting about this is that it's been well over eleven years since *Ravin*, and it's still a matter of law in Alaska that marijuana is relatively harmless. Nobody gets busted there for head stash. If "legal" pot had the potential to provoke a major health problem, it would have done so by now; and the "parents power" antimarijuana lobby would have made its case before the legislature and the courts, and personal possession of grass would be illegal again. In the intervening decade, hundreds of millions of tax dollars (your money and mine) have been spent to try to discover some intolerably deleterious effect of marijuana, and "experts"—who in that much time could have proven clear, arctic air poisonous—are still coming up dry.

I talked with Anchorage attorney Robert Wagstaff, who handled the Ravin case, before putting this column together and heard for the first time the story of how the Alaskan courts became enlightened on this issue. It seems that he and Irwin Ravin, also a lawyer, actually conspired to change the law.

According to a prearranged plan, Ravin got himself busted with some pot in his pocket way back in December 1972. They moved to dismiss the case, and almost three weeks of hearings ensued in which the entire issue of marijuana and health was examined. Nationally-recognized scientists and zealots, from Dr. Lester Grinspoon to Dr. Gabriel Nahas, took the stand, and the current scientific literature on cannabis was entered in the record. A thorough study of that evidence formed the basis of the Supreme Court's *unanimous* decision in Ravin's favor, delivered in May '75.

Despite the passage of time, it's still quite probably the most thorough and rational discussion on marijuana prohibition yet dispensed by a body of judges. (Courts in the lower 48 have universally rejected the pot-privacy argument.) Anyone with an interest in this issue and access to a law library should give it a read-through. It just might make your day.

You'll find it under *Ravin v. State*, 537 P. 2d 494 (Alaska 1975). ●

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In David Byrne's **TRUE STORIES** (co-written by Texas author Beth Henley), Texas is treated as not just another state, but another planet. It's never been presented more accurately, and not without affection. A travelogue/satire hosted by Byrne, string-tied in a Cadillac convertible, and set in mythical Virgil, Texas in preparation for the town's "Celebration of Specialness." We're treated to the town's specialness by Byrne with the fascination of a game-show prize model taking special delight in an evening out at Virgil's hot-spot—a shopping mall cocktail lounge. But more important are Virgil's "special" people, all of whom seem to have fallen off the pages of the *National Enquirer*: LAZIEST WOMAN IN THE WORLD SAYS "I'M TOO RICH TO GET OUT OF BED," SCIENTIST CLAIMS PEOPLE EMIT TONES, HAPPILY MARRIED COUPLE HAVEN'T SPOKEN IN YEARS, WOMAN ADMITS TO HAVING

NEVER TOLD THE TRUTH. Byrne maintains a deadpan awe, sounding like the lyrics to a Talking Heads song: "Texas is the world's largest producer of metal buildings" and "Hmmm...a four-car garage. I wonder who lives there?" **TRUE STORIES** is very clever and colorful in its ideas, and while the fragmented and unfinished narrative is frustrating, David Byrne is an inventive enough director to make **TRUE STORIES** more than just a film oddity. Great bits from Spalding Gray, Jo Harvey Allen (hilarious as *The Lying Woman*) and Swoozie Kurtz. ●

Jim Jarmusch is the instant "auteur" who hit it big after the over-rated **STRANGER THAN PARADISE**, and who has since often been quoted on his abhorrence of Hollywood—though for his new film, **DOWN BY LAW**, he has drawn from Hollywood genres (notably, the prison escape movie) while holding firm to his refusal to "sell out." Jarmusch is a minimalist director. He couldn't get

more minimal if there was nothing on the screen at all. This is for our benefit, by the way: Jarmusch says, "I don't like to tell the audience what to see or what to feel. I like them to use their imagination." Thanks Jim, but wouldn't audiences prefer to use their imagination on their own movies? **DOWN BY LAW** is about nothing that isn't on the screen. Two drifters (Tom Waits and John Lurie) meet what appears to be an Italian stand-up comic in a Southern shanty town. All three end up in prison, all three escape (how, we don't know—use your imagination), and Tom and John drift again after the funnyman finds a girlfriend. Roberto Benigni is the comic; he may be funny in Italy but the only source of his humor here is his broken English. If **DOWN BY LAW** belongs to anyone, it's Director of Photography Robbie Müller whose swampy black-and-white cinematography captures more of the bayou landscape and dead characters than the non-direction and script. Jim Jarmusch is self-promoted as a "personal and uncompromised" director but with **DOWN BY LAW** he has merely chosen snob-appeal over slob-appeal—there isn't much difference. ●

PSYCHOTRONIC

Dennis Hopper has returned! Often accused of being a difficult, incoherent hippie, he's the only Hollywood personality who can claim to have acted in two James Dean films (*Rebel Without A Cause* and *Giant*), two John Wayne films (*True Grit* and *The Sons Of Katie Elder*), two Francis Ford Coppola classics (*Apocalypse Now* and *Rumble Fish*), directed three of his own movies and survived unofficial Hollywood blacklisting, divorces, and years of alcohol and drug abuse. Of the many recent Hopper films, his best and scariest performance is in David Lynch's *BLUE VELVET* as the hyper blackmailer/killer Frank Booth. Other recent releases include roles in *WINNING OUT OF LICK* (with Mick Jagger), *THE AMERICAN WAY* (he and Michael J. Pollard play "drug-crazed Nam vets") and *THE RIVER'S EDGE* (as a "one-legged former biker who lives with a plastic sex doll"). Watch for his follow up flop to *Easy Rider*, *THE LAST MOVIE* coming on video soon!

A recent visit to Texas gave me more insight as to why *TEXAS CHAINSAW MASSACRE II* (also with Hopper) was so disappointing. The whole production was being rushed by the backers at Cannon, director Tobe Hooper was not dealing with the pressure well, and the editing made parts of the movie senseless. I visited the abandoned amusement park between Dallas and Austin where the human barbecue complex exteriors were shot, and met original *CHAINSAW* star Ed Neal (the hitchhiker), now a movie memorabilia dealer, in Austin (home of Rocky Erickson). Highlights of Austin included an engagement party with live entertainment by West Virginia's own great rockabilly one man band, Nasli ("She Said") Atkins. If you like your music really raw and demented, look for *OUT TO WINCH* (Morton Records) for unbelievable '55-'65 era home recorded madness. Besides all the good real Mexican restaurants (as opposed to Manhattan's yuppie frozen margarita haunts) in Austin, there's a new cheap beer and sandwich stop called El Carnivore. On the opening night the beer was free, the U.T. students were friendly, the music was great (Link Wray, Napoleon XIV...) and the parking lot was packed with bikers and skinheads. Back in Dallas, I visited the recently revived Longhorn Ballroom where every famous country and R & B act used to play (as well as more modern acts, from the Sex Pistols to Scratch Acid). I also liked the Deep Ellum area clubs (Intergalactic yodeling champ Randy Erwin was a musical highpoint), the voodoo shops, the world's first 7-11 store, the Kennedy tour, and the Texas history wax museum (complete with scenes from famous crimes and movies, an effective horror show, and a wax Last Supper scene with its own chapel).

—MICHAEL J. WELDON, author of *The PSYCHOTRONIC ENCYCLOPEDIA OF FILM* (Ballantine).



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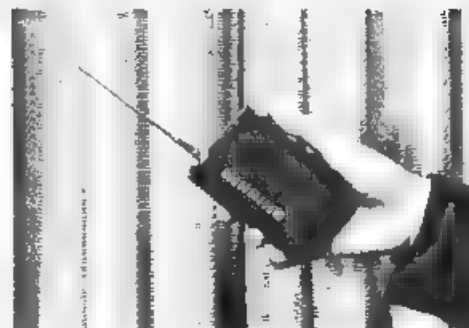
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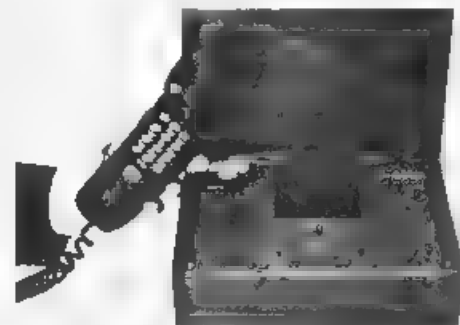
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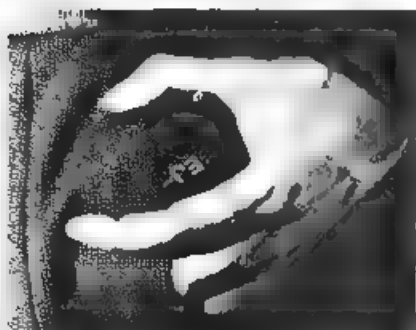
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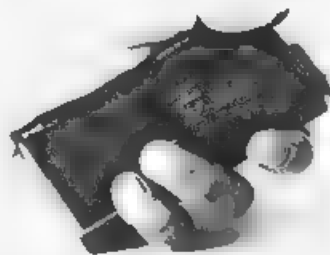
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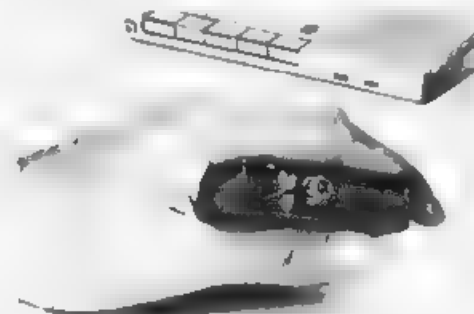
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MOTORHEAD

JOHN LELAND

Alternative Record Charts

1. When **BIL Laswell** starts producing heavy metal bands, you know the stuff has become chic. As pop culture continues its ironic romance with decontextualized kitsch—which is, I believe, more a symptom of the oppressive political climate than a subversion of it—one of the most powerful images of white trash youth falls prey to the image manipulators.

And so we have the new **MOTORHEAD** album, *Orgasmatron* (GWR/Profile), produced by the man who made Herb & Hancock hip (hop).

A lot of which high tone folderol matters little to the ugly motherfuckers in Motorhead. These guys have worn bullet belts and had back teeth since before Laswell was in long pants, and they aren't about to clean up their act. *Orgasmatron* is nothing but a fast, powerful, articulate rumble, the sound of long hair and black leather and alcohol and God knows what else, but it sure ain't a fucking concept. Motorhead has always been more resignation than rebellion—loud working-class acknowledgement that the world is rapidly turning into a noxious sewer but that if the band or its fans controlled the means of production, they'd only hasten the end. Which makes them like bluesmen, both above and beneath

culpability, and immune to trendy manipulators.

Despite punk roots, they don't say they ain't gonna take it; theirs is precisely the sound of taking it.

2. **DAVID LEE ROTH**, on the other hand, is in no way immune. Infinitely malleable and elusive, he is less an image than a state of manipulation: a process acting on a series of images which are exterior to himself. His new Spanish-language *Benica Salvaje* album (Werner) is a delicious mindfuck (as with all Roth routines, it's impossible to tell who the joke's on). But, like Madonna, he makes most sense not as a human being or a slice of vinyl, but as a TV show.

Own up. Even if you think heavy metal sucks, Roth's videos are better than most other things in your life. It's all in the way that he, one of our most successful arena rockers, relates the arena to the living room. Most meta bands assume that their fans are stupid enough to believe that they're in an arena just because they're watching a bunch of long hairs raising clenched fists amid clouds of dry ice fog. This is a mistake. Your average Joe and Suzie Headbanger don't even want the arena in their living room. They haven't got their M-80's to throw at their favorite stars—and if they did, they'd just waste their TV sets. Roth understands that in your home, you don't want fireworks, you want a strip show. That it's

never himself that he undresses is what keeps you coming back.

About the album? It's like the English-language debut, only in Spanish. But since it's Roth, the album is about neither the language nor the music, but about the manipulation. And that's pretty damned cool.

3. **JUSTICE**, *Back to the Old School* (Fresh). You wanna know that this is a good record; but mostly, you wanna know if this accused murderer really wasted those two guys in Washington, D.C., doncha? Ain't nothing like the real thing, baby.

4. **YO! LAMO GUYS**, *All Night Long Party* (Homestead). The sound of the world going blammo; from a noisy post-punk trio so talented and so disoriented it isn't funny.

5. **VARIOUS ARTISTS**, *Sun Records: The Blues Years: 1950-1956* (Charly import). Because if you don't drop a shitload of green on this nine record box, you'll have money around for the Springsteen box. And because if we lived in a better world, you'd get laid every day for a year just for having the liner notes.

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Sierra Club

ASK ED

continued from page 65

Dear Ed,

I have a closed growing room. Up till now, I've never had any problems with my plants. But now I have a problem puzzling me to no end. I kept the light on my plants for 24 hours a day until six weeks ago, when the plants went on a 12 hour photoperiod. But the plants won't flower. They are about 4 1/2 feet tall and very healthy. I'm sure that they are in complete darkness when the light is off. I tried 16 hours of darkness for two nights—still nothing.

What is wrong with these plants?

—Greg

East Tenn. Mountains

Somehow the dark cycle is being interrupted with light. Either the garden is receiving a low level of light throughout the dark period or periodic bursts of a bright level.

Equatorial plants require the longest dark cycle to start flowering. They usually flower most vigorously with a little more than 12 hours of darkness. But even these plants should flower under 12 hours of darkness.

Dear Ed,

What can someone expect an indoor garden to yield? I have seen statements like "one ounce per square foot of growing space." I know there would be variables involved, but what can I expect if I use realistic techniques?

—John L.

Miami, Florida

A state of the art garden using a drip emitter method with Rockwool, sodium vapor lamps, CO₂, temperature control, and two or three part growing room (clones-vegetative, and flowering room or clone, vegetative and flowering room) should be able to produce a harvest every six to eight weeks using clones. A good yielding variety is capable of producing about 3/4 to 1 1/4 ounces per square foot per crop. If the room is used continuously it is capable of ripening up to eight crops a year.

For each foot of growing space in the flowering room about 1/2 foot is required in the vegetative growth section and 1/10-1/4 foot is required in the clone room. This means that each foot of growing space actually produces about .4-.8 1/4 ounces per crop. Times eight crops a year, the total yield comes to 3.2 to 6.5 ounces. Of course, as with all farm crops no one always gets the crop they expect. Disasters such as insect attacks, mold, and im-

proper maintenance can destroy a crop overnight.

One new method of cultivation uses up to ten small plants per square foot which only reach 2-3 feet at maturity. They can be grown on stacked shelves so that a space with a 12 foot ceiling can hold three shelves. If a 120 square foot space is used 2/3 for shelves and 1/3 for aisle space stacked three high, a total of 80 feet would be used but the area under cultivation would be 240 square feet, twice the area of the space, doubling the yield per square foot of area.

Dear Ed,

I have an off-the-wall question. If marijuana were legal today and the total supply of the U.S. was grown in America outdoors in a place with top growing conditions, how many acres would it take to grow the whole year's supply if the demand were to remain the same it is now? Please take into account space for breeding and seed stock.

—Gary

Chesapeake, VA

First we have to figure out just how much marijuana is being used in the U.S. at present. Estimates range from 15,000-25,000 tons, or 30,000,000-50,000,000 pounds. Good land, commercially planted, should yield about 1350 pounds per acre. That is, about a half ounce per square foot. It would take between 22,200 and 37,000 acres to supply consumers' needs. Figure an extra 5-10% for seed production and research. Of course, if marijuana were legal, cannabis hemp would also be legal and farmers would have a great incentive for growing marijuana's non-psychoactive sister plant for its fiber, oil, and pulp which would be used widely in industry and commerce. The total amount of land devoted to cannabis would then be much, much higher than the amount of land used for marijuana production.

● I welcome comments, tips and questions regarding marijuana and marijuana cultivation. Send all letters to Ask Ed, HIGH TIMES, 211 E. 43rd St., New York, NY 10017. Also send entries for the Bud, Plant and Garden of the Month Contests. All correspondents whose letters or photos are used will receive a free copy of my book, **Marijuana Growers Handbook, Indoor/Greenhouse Edition**.

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BUT THERE IS A CATCH—All we ask in return for making this adult entertainment available to you is that you fill out & return the questionnaire you'll be receiving with your order (it doesn't need to be signed). Your responses to our questions will be a tremendous help to us in producing X-rated pictures the public will want. In fact, your response is the whole aim of this campaign. The more selections you review the more valuable your input becomes. Therefore, to encourage you to review as many selections as possible, we are going to offer an additional bonus.

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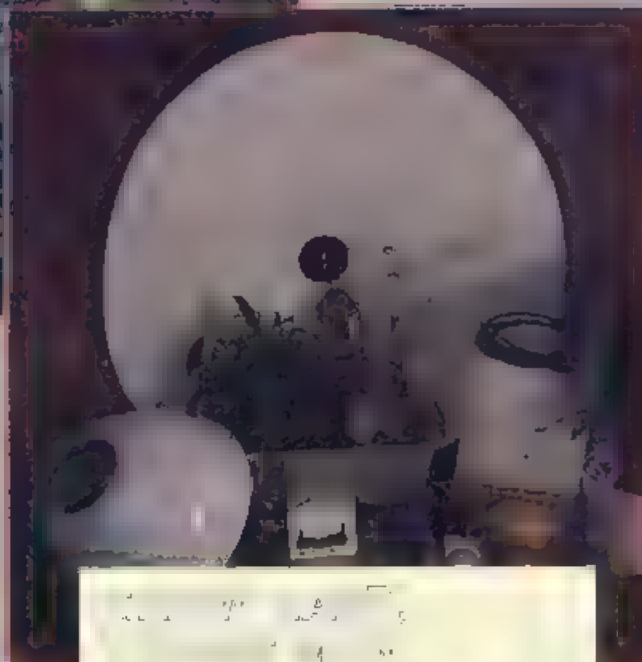
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GROW - ROOM

continued from page 76

painter's dropcloth or thick, white, visqueen plastic will save floors from moisture

Step Seven: Mount a hook strong enough to support 30 lbs. in the center of the growing area to be serviced by the lamp. Attach an adjustable pulley and cord or chain between the ceiling hook and the lamp fixture. This will make it easy to keep the lamp at the proper distance from the growing plants and up out of the way when maintaining them

CAUTION: A HOT HID MAY EXPLODE IF TOUCHED BY A SINGLE DROP OF COLD WATER. BE VERY CAREFUL AND MAKE SURE TO MOVE THE HID OUT OF THE WAY WHEN SERVICING THE GARDEN.

Step Eight: Setting Up Metal Halide and HP Sodium Lamps—

A. Both the lamp and ballast radiate quite a bit of heat, so keep them a safe distance (6-12") from plants or flammable walls and ceiling. Place the remote ballasts near the floor to keep things cool. It may also be placed outside the grow room if the temperature is too high, which is unlikely when a good vent fan is used

B. Buy a timer! A timer is necessary

for you to play Mother Nature successfully. Mother Nature provides a rigid schedule for plants to live by. If the photoperiod bounces around, something Mother Nature would never let happen, there will be a room full of sick, confused plants. These sick plants produce a minimum of scrawny plants and a miserable harvest. A heavy duty timer will cost about \$30 and is worth its weight in Kush resin

C. To plug in the HID lamp, it is necessary to find the proper outlet. A 1000 watt HID lamp will use about 9.5 amperes (amps) of electricity on a regular 110-120 volt house current.

A typical home has either a fuse box or a breaker box. Each fuse or breaker switch controls an electrical circuit in the home. The fuse or breaker switch will be rated for 15, 20, 25, 30, or 40 amp service. The best rule of thumb is to use one halide for every 15/20 amperes of circuit

Circuits are considered overloaded when more than 80% of the amps are being used. The fuse's amp rating is printed on its face and the breaker switch's amp rating is printed on the switch or on the breaker box. To find out which outlets are controlled by a fuse or breaker switch, remove the fuse or turn the breaker switch off. Test each and every 110 volt outlet in the home to see

which ones do not work. All the outlets that do not work are on the same circuit. All outlets that work are on another circuit.

D. Always use a 3-prong grounded plug. If your home is not equipped with working 3-prong grounded outlets, buy a 3-prong grounded plug and outlet adaptor. Attach the ground wire to a grounded ferrous metal object like a grounded metal pipe, heavy copper wire, driven into the earth to form a ground or screw the ground into the plug-in face. This is essential because you will be working with water under and around the HID system. Water conducts electricity about as well as the human body... guaranteed to give you a charge!

Step Nine: Move the seedlings or rooted clones into room. Huddle them closely together under the lamp. Make sure the HID is not so close to small plants that it burns their leaves. Usually, seedlings require the lamp to be at least 24" away.

Step Ten: Set the timer for 18 hours of light and 6 hours of darkness for the vegetative grow room, and an even 12 hours of light and dark for the flowering room. Turn the timer off. Plug the lamp into the timer and the grounded wall socket. Switch the timer on

And then there was light ●

HIGH TIMES

No. 10

June 1976

How to Keep Psilocybin in Your Own Home, Doctor Rat by William Kotzwinkle, Mexican Dope: I was a Merchant Marine Smuggler

No. 11

July 1976

How We Got Our Dope Laws, The Ten Best Smuggling Planes, How I Invented LSD by Albin Holman, Sinsemilla Supersmoke

No. 6

Oct./Nov. 1975

Aldous Huxley, Tits and Grass, Dali Lama Interview, Portrait of the Artist as a Young Dope Smuggler

No. 12

August 1976

Daredevil Doperunners, Poppytime in Laos Dope Rider

No. 9

May 1976

My Dad Wilhelm Reich vs the UFOs, Dope Dealers Haunted by Fame, Spring Planting Guide, Spaced Star Trek, Centerfold

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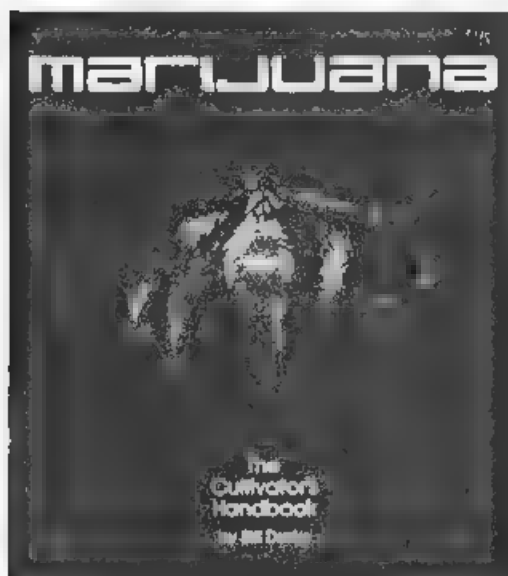
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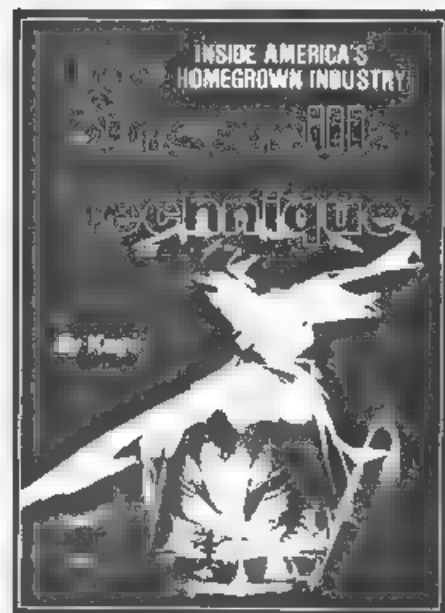
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Barry Seal

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waging a propaganda campaign against the Sandinistas for years, the administration now claimed to have what it had only hinted at before—hard evidence of Managua's "subversion" of its neighbors. But what was Grade A propaganda for the White House to use against the Sandinistas threw the DEA's investigation of the Ochoas into panic.

Indeed, word quickly spread through Miami's drug casbah that the Ochoas were offering a large cash reward (some reports go as high as \$2 million) for the live delivery of Barry Seal, and something less for his corpse. On the government's side, officials scrambled to pick up the pieces of the two-year investigation, arresting Bates and Bustamante and some lesser Ochoa operatives in Florida. By August, when Seal's photographs were finally released to the public, the Managua end of the investigation was inoperative, and Seal's usefulness as a drug informant was severely compromised.

Still, the leak was not an unalloyed victory for the White House propagandists. In indicting Bates and Bustamante, U.S. Attorney Gregorie revealed that the case against the Sandinistas rested precariously on the testimony of the so-called "Confidential Informant," Barry Seal. Seal, to use the DEA's own terminology, was "unsupervised." He had acted alone in arranging *The Fat Lady's* initial flight to Managua, and it was Seal who made the government's tapped phone calls to the "top-Sandinista official" named in the indictment, Federico Vaughan.

The fact that the only load of cocaine to come out of Managua was the one Seal himself brought in casts doubt on the administration's portrayal of "top Sandinista officials" deeply involved in the cocaine trade. It raises the possibility that the Sandinistas, suspicious of Seal's enthusiasm, were stringing him along for their own counter-intelligence purposes. Or that, rather than reaching into the "top" of the Sandinista leadership, Seal and his partners had managed to corrupt only a few low-level customs officials.

Seal's ability to bring drugs in and out of Managua, his apparent ability to connect Sandinistas to Colombian traffickers even one time, must reveal

some wrongdoing in Managua. Or does it? Was the Sandinista connection only another case of "Uncle Sam Wants You," of using a criminal to plant evidence and to establish criminality in the target? According to Thomas Sclafani, Seal's Miami attorney, his client offered to "sting" the Sandinistas when he first went to the White House in early 1984, before the Vice President's task force turned him back over to the DEA. Inasmuch as three attempts by Seal to "turn over" had been rebuffed, it appears at least as likely that Seal's Sandinista Connection was the cause of his undercover work rather than its result.

Beyond the questions relating to the genesis of the Sandinista sting are the broader issues of the conduct of the White House's secret war against Nicaragua. In researching the Seal case, it has been learned that Seal's connection to that war went well beyond the flight to Managua. A number of sources confirmed that Seal, with his resources of pilots and secondhand aircraft, may have been a key asset in an elaborate logistics network of "private" suppliers, fund-raisers, transporters, and advisors recruited by the White House to circumvent congressional restrictions on U.S. aid to the contras.

One former contra supporter, who met with Seal on several occasions in Louisiana, says Seal was recruited to fly DC-6s—the craft of choice for contra resupply missions—from the Ilopango Air Force Base in El Salvador to the contras' main base at Aguacate in Honduras. "Barry worked in the 'gray area' of U.S. foreign policy," said another of Seal's Baton Rouge associates, saying that Seal ran weapons to Army officers in El Salvador and Honduras—with the apparent approval of the State Department—who then turned the cargo over to the contras operating along the Nicaraguan border.

Other associates, such as Seal's mechanic, are vague as to whether Seal flew for the CIA or simply assisted in connecting planes with pilots for the secret flights. Indeed, Seal himself admitted that "a lot of people buy planes. The government buys planes, the CIA buys planes," using Seal as a middleman to hide the government's purchases.

One answer to these speculations became public on October 5, when *The Fat Lady* was shot down over Nicaragua. ●



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